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# THE CAVALRY JOURNAL



JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1938

*"They Didn't Know How"*

By MAJOR EDWIN E. SCHWIEN, Second U. S. Cavalry

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# "They Didn't Know How"

By MAJOR EDWIN E. SCHWIEN, Second U. S. Cavalry

It has been said that the realistic lessons derived from a war are always forgotten long before the next conflict. Immediately following the demobilization of Armies, there spring into favor a number of sophistical theorists who usually succeed in impressing their fallacies upon certain impractical and schematic-minded peace time officers who constitute in part the inter-bellum General Staff of the Armies of the different powers.

In certain countries, this body embraces many officers whose sole qualification for General Staff Work is that they have been selected for their National Staff College through the vagaries of a nepotic or spoils system of selection. Fortunately, this method of selection is not employed in the United States. However, we do have many officers whose knowledge of war has been gained in the sometime rather schematic systems of our branch and General Staff Schools with the unfortunate but all too frequent result of stifling practical and original thought. Furthermore, many of these officers have been selected by their own branch rather than by the General Staff to attend the War College and have been placed subsequently upon General Staff where they become actually branch or arm representatives.<sup>1</sup> As such they are interested, and in most cases familiar with only the interests, rôle and aspirations of their respective branches. Their perspective is not one which can embrace the ensemble of the Army combat team or the proportion of arms essential to the proper functioning of this team. Their knowledge of their own branch is more likely to be theoretical than practical due to the infrequency of their tours of troop duty (most of this of a garrison type). Quite naturally, these officers, due to their lack of practical background are prone to accept many impractical theories of war as sound. Such slogans as "The next war will be in the air" and "The horse on the battlefield is as obsolete as the Dodo" are immediately seized upon and thereby the exploiting

officer is branded as "an advanced and modern thinker." Such officers, if they should happen to be on the War Department General Staff, may seriously effect our military establishment for the General Staff is responsible for doctrine and the relative proportionment of arms of the army. This, of course, should be determined not only by the studies of probable future war theaters but also by careful evaluation of the rôles played by these arms in past wars and particularly in the World War.

Studies of probable theaters of war for us usually lead to no definite conclusions. It would not be proper to attempt any in this article for numerous reasons. Suffice to say, our next war may be in any part of the globe including the continental limits of the United States. As to the rôles of the various arms, however, we do have the definite and solid precedent of the World War.

Since the Armistice, there has been a strong and growing conviction among civilians and strange to say, even among many officers of other branches, that horse cavalry is becoming obsolescent. This theory is based apparently upon studies of the later years of the World War when many cavalry units were dismounted into infantry or transformed into artillery. The proponents of this school do not realize the peculiar conditions which existed in 1917 and 1918. Their knowledge of the World War is confined mostly to their personal experiences of 1918 or to a study of the American participation. Few of them realize that the real conflict was fought during the period 1914-1916. Their ideas of horse cavalry indicate a complete ignorance of the ante 1916 years. This so-called advanced school of thought is proselyting a considerable number of disciples. It will not be dangerous, however, unless it indoctrinates too large a proportion of our General Staff or too many of our statesmen.

On the western front the war of 1914 bore little or no resemblance to that of 1918. The attrition processes of the later years had not become prevalent. Maneuver should and could have been the decisive factor in 1914. Maneuver founded on rapidity was indeed, the keynote of the objective offensive strategy of Germany. Unfortunately for them, however, the German conception of a rapidly moving maneuvering force consisted of one constituted principally of infantry mass.

The purpose of this article is to convince members of the other branches of our Army and any non-military readers that *had the Germans properly employed their*

<sup>1</sup>If an officer is well qualified for General Staff it is of small importance to what branch or arm he is originally accredited, conversely, the mere fact that an officer is outstanding in his own branch is, by no means, proof that he is proper material for General Staff. The General Staff itself is far better qualified to know what officers of the Army at large can best perform specialized General Staff duties than can possibly be the chiefs of branches. If, for example, an officer is known generally to be highly specialized in G-4 or G-2 work, he should certainly be utilized on this work. Our present system, however, will detail in these sections of the General Staff in his stead an officer quite unfamiliar or perhaps unsuited for this work, merely because the numerical coefficient of his general rating over a period of years has been slightly higher thereby detailing him to that necessary General Staff prerequisite—The War College.

*The Cavalry MASS in the strategic maneuver*

horse cavalry in 1914, they might have won the war within two months. If the German horse cavalry, as constituted in 1914, could have had such a far reaching effect, what then might the cavalry of today have done? Modern cavalry, with its greatly increased fire power, with its mechanized attachments and motorized trains would have performed the task with far greater ease in spite of possible modern hostile air force and mechanization intervention.

Let us begin our strategical study with the supposition that the mass of the German cavalry on the western front in 1914 should have been employed on the right flank. We shall next determine just how much cavalry was or should have been available for this purpose by effecting the maximum cavalry economy along the fronts of the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Armies. Our next logical step will be to decide upon a suitable concentration area for this cavalry mass basing our decision upon the German 1914 Concentration Plan.

This accomplished, we shall next make a brief geographic and terrain study of our probable cavalry theater of operations. Such a study will indicate to a certain extent the strength and composition of necessary attachments to this cavalry force.

Finally, we shall relive certain critical periods in the operations of the First and Second Armies during which crucial hours we shall employ our cavalry army, now modernized and properly reinforced, on the grand and decisive scale for which it was created. In so doing we shall also give full weight to possible reactions of a strong hostile air force. As for hostile cavalry, horse and mechanized, we shall devote only that consideration necessary to their actual 1914 employment.

# I

## *The Employment of a Cavalry Mass on the North Flank*

As we all know, the German 1914 Plan was based upon a wide encircling maneuver through Belgium and France whereby the decision would be gained by the enveloping action of the right wing. This wing could never have been made too strong. We know, however, that von Moltke was swayed by the pleas of many to emasculate the plan of von Schlieffen to the extent of seriously weakening this wing by strengthening the center and left. While now fully recognized as a serious error, in spite of this error, the success of the Germans would have been assured had their cavalry been correctly employed! The German concentration plan provided for two cavalry corps on the front of the center and left wing of their Armies. This part of the front was opposite and very close to the French fortified line of the Meuse with its almost impregnable fortresses of Belfort, Epinal, Toul and Verdun. In the area between the French and German concentrations on this front lay the difficult Vosges Mountains and the lake region of Dieuze—both entirely unsuitable for large scale cavalry operations. A little further to the north, was situated the immense German fortified area of Metz which actually controlled by fire no small part of the Franco-German frontier. There, *certainly*, was no theater for large scale

cavalry operations! Yet on this very front were concentrated the III and IV Cavalry Corps and *in addition the equivalent of seventy-nine squadrons (two troops each) of divisional cavalry!*<sup>2</sup> All told, one hundred and thirty-nine squadrons of cavalry and four Jäger battalions were massed in an area so restricted in size and difficult in terrain that it would have been unsuitable for the *independent* maneuver of a single cavalry division. Besides the two complete cavalry corps, at least half of the divisional cavalry on this portion of the front might have been reorganized into Army cavalry and so employed on the north flank. However, greatly in excess as it was, we shall leave this corps and divisional cavalry on the front of the four southern Armies and move only the concentration areas of the III and IV Cavalry Corps. These corps together with the I and II Corps should be concentrated with the view of their eventual advance in that part of the theater of operations north of the line of the Sambre-Meuse. We would thus have four cavalry corps available for employment in the theater of operations of the First and Second Armies. These two Armies were strongly reinforced organically with corps and divisional cavalry.

The First Army cavalry consisted of twenty squadrons (two troops each). The Second Army had the same number, while the Third had fifteen. Surely, this amount should have been ample for the tactical reconnaissance required by these Armies during the advance. Furthermore, the German Plan required the Third Army to advance against the line of the Meuse between Huy and Dinant. It had little maneuver latitude. Its operation was to consist of a river-crossing purely and simply—a river-crossing complicated by the presence of the fortress of Namur dominating the center of its zone of advance. Certainly, this was no task to be assigned divisional cavalry! Even the Third Army might have dispensed with a portion of its organic cavalry.

On the front of the First and Second Armies however, the situation was slightly different. These two Armies constituted the maneuvering wing and as such required more *strategic* reconnaissance, both aerial and ground. Consequently one of the four cavalry corps available should, in our theoretical study be attached to this Army group and employed on the front of these two Armies.

Our next problem is to determine suitable concentration areas for the four cavalry corps. In order to do this intelligently we must first decide upon what strategic missions we wish to assign them. Inasmuch as the II Corps was actually employed on the front of the First and Second Armies, we shall assign this corps the strategic reconnaissance missions necessary to these Armies, with the proviso, however, that it be employed under the Army Group Commander and not parcelled out to the two Armies.

Now let us consider the other three corps. The German conception of their strategic maneuver envisioned a repetition of Sedan on a grandiose scale. The right

<sup>2</sup>Includes cavalry of the Metz and Strassburg garrisons.

wing was to search constantly for, eventually find and finally envelop the left of the Allies. It is quite conceivable that the infantry mass constituting the bulk of this maneuvering wing, provided it did not prematurely turn south, might eventually locate the enemy flank. In so doing, however, it is also quite evident that the enemy might counter by employing his reserves to fix this maneuvering wing frontally, something which actually happened first along the Sambre—Mons front, later partially along the upper Oise and finally at the Marne. In all three of these critical periods, the German high command was paralyzed because of the lack of a strong *highly mobile* strategic reserve available for rapid employment on the north flank. This then, will be the mission assigned our cavalry Army comprising the I, III and IV Corps. Obviously, with such a mission it should advance in *rear* of the First Army, prepared to exploit rapidly any *strategic* opportunities gained by the Army group in front of it. (See map No. 1.)

## II

### Concentration Area

The First Army concentrated in the area:

Crefeld—Erkelenz—Jülich—Bergheim.

The Cavalry Army which we might designate for convenience as the "R" Army, should then be concentrated in the angle formed by the lower Rhine and the Holland border to the north of Crefeld. In the advance it will then follow in trace of the First Army. While having the undesirable features of being restricted in size and adjacent to neutral territory, this concentration area is the only one available. Any concentration east of the Rhine might be seriously delayed in its later advance across the river by hostile air force operations directed against the several crossings.

## III

### Topographic Study of the Theater of Operations

Let us now study the topography of the theater of operations. Beginning at the eastern frontier of Belgium we find the line of the lower Meuse which flows into the tip of Holland near Vise. The neutrality of Holland having been decided upon as politically advisable, the reaches of this river between Huy and the Holland frontier assume an importance of the first magnitude. Not only must the First and Second Armies cross on this front but now the "R" Army must follow the First. To further complicate the problem, at least a third of this portion of the river is dominated by the guns of the fortress of Liege. Downstream from Huy, the Meuse is from three hundred to five hundred feet wide and from seven to twenty feet deep. Its valley from Huy to Liege is quite broad and the heights along the north bank are very steep and difficult. North of the fortress of Liege, the river and its valley become wider and the banks lower and flatter until finally in the lower tip of Holland, they form a wide low basin. A canal, sixty feet wide and six feet deep, parallels the river at varying distances from the left bank.

The two principal left bank tributaries of the Meuse downstream from Huy are the Mehaigne which flows into the Meuse at Huy and the Geer which flows through Tongres. The "R" Army will probably be forced to cross the upper reaches of the Geer behind the right of the First Army.

We shall next consider the Demer, an important stream rising in the region of Tongres. It flows in a westerly direction to its confluence with the Dyle at Malines. This river averages about thirty-five feet in width and six feet in depth. It is navigable. The *south* bank is from thirty to one hundred feet in height and *offers favorable defensive possibilities against any attack from the north*. North of Malines is the huge fortified area of Antwerp. Any movement of the "R" Army to the west in the region north of the Demer would therefore find itself blocked by the cul-de-sac of the fortifications of Antwerp reinforced by the difficult line of the lower Escaut or Schelde. At least as far west as Malines then, it would seem to be indicated that the Demer should mark the north boundary of the zone of advance of the "R" Army. On the other hand, the zone of this army should be as far north as possible in order to facilitate its rapid employment as a wide enveloping force and thereby prevent it from becoming embroiled in comparatively local operations of the First and Second Armies. These considerations practically dictate the axis for this Army as the line:

Tongres—St. Tronde—Louvain—Vilvorde.

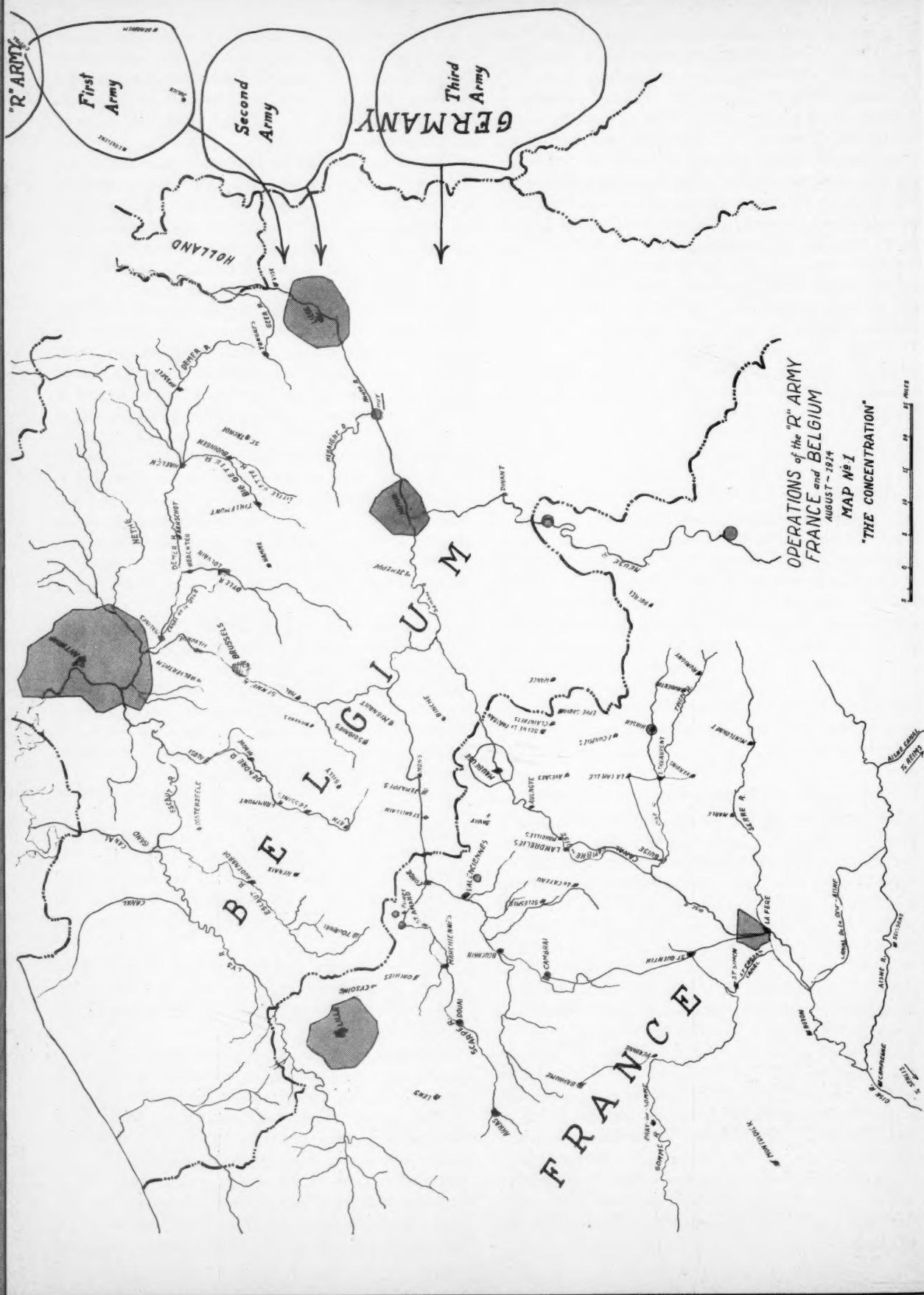
This axis crosses certain tributaries of the left bank of the Demer. These must be discussed.

Just west of St. Tronde are the Big and the Little Gette. They join at Budingen and flow north into the Demer at Haelen. With their numerous little irrigation canals and the accompanying wet meadowlands, they form an obstacle of considerable importance.

Flowing north from the old Napoleonic battlefield of Waterloo, through Louvain and into the Nethe northwest of Malines, is the Dyle. In the region of Louvain this stream is about fifty feet wide and unfordable. At Malines, it has a width of approximately one hundred and twenty-five feet. In the vicinity of Werchter, it connects with the Canal de la Dyle—a difficult obstacle in itself.

Further to the west and flowing north through Brussels into the Dyle northwest of Malines is the Senne. Downstream from Brussels it is from sixty to ninety feet wide and six feet deep.

In the advance to the west from the concentration area, the "R" Army may possibly be covered as far as Brussels by the II Cavalry Corps and the First Army. It may therefore expect to find all of these streams bridged and this stage of its movement may become only an administrative march with flank protection along the Demer. On the other hand, the First Army may change its direction to the south, thereby uncovering the front of the "R" Army. In this event, bridgehead operations along the Dyle and the Senne may become a necessity. Conse-



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quently the "R" Army should be strongly reinforced with bridge trains and engineer troops. Furthermore, beyond the Senne and very probably east of the fortified area of Lille, the right wing will take a southerly or southwesterly direction and the "R" Army may at any time be launched in the encirclement.

At such a time, bridging equipage will become absolutely essential, for to the west of the Senne are the very difficult obstacles of the Dendre and the Escaut (Schelde).

The Dendre, which rises north of Mons, is a right bank tributary of the Escaut. North from Ath, it is channeled. Downstream from Alost it averages sixty feet in width and six feet in depth. Its valley which in many localities is a mile wide, consists mainly of marshy meadows with numerous drainage ditches.

The Escaut north from Condé is from forty to a hundred and thirty feet wide and more than six feet deep. It is channeled and navigable and as such constitutes an important obstacle.

North of Lille and parallel to the lower Escaut is the Lys which flows into the Escaut at Gand.

Should strategic considerations require an advance of the "R" Army to the north of the Lille fortifications, the Lys will of necessity have to be crossed in both its lower and upper reaches. It forms as serious an obstacle as the Escaut.

We should next consider the area to the west of Escaut and south of Lille for the "R" Army may be forced to operate in this region if the First Army becomes engaged to the east thereof.

The first topographic difficulty which the cavalry may encounter in this region is the line of the Scarpe between Arras and St. Amand. This river varies from one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet in width and has been transformed into a canal between Douai and Marchiennes. The countryside to both the north and south is marshy and flat and can be inundated with ease. East of Douai then, the Scarpe region presents a formidable obstacle which should, if possible, be avoided.

Proceeding to the south, our next terrain problem is presented by the Escaut between Cambrai and Valenciennes. This stream has also been canalized and is about one hundred and fifty feet wide and six feet deep. In spite of its width, it may be crossed with comparative ease as the south bank does not offer very favorable defensive positions.

To the southeast of the Escaut, the first terrain feature of importance is the Oise northeast from LaFere prolonged by the canal of the Sambre—Oise to Landrecies. The Oise downstream from Guise varies in width from ninety to one hundred and twenty feet in width and is a little over six feet deep. In several places it is split into several channels. The Sambre-Oise canal to the north of Guise is about seventy-five feet wide and six feet deep.

Should the "R" Army be required to advance to the southwest from the region of Douai, its first difficulty would be a crossing of the Somme. This river is paralleled by canals almost its entire length. A forty-five foot wide

and six foot deep canal follows the course of the river between St. Simon and Bray-sur-Somme. To the west of Bray, the river channel itself is canalized. South of the Somme in the direction of Paris, we find the very wide Oise. Below its confluence with the Aisne at Compiègne it is from four to five hundred feet in width and if defended would require an action of considerable force to cross it.

To the east of Paris is the Marne which flows into the Seine at this city.

Both the Marne and the Seine to the southeast of Paris are extremely difficult obstacles. To the northwest of Paris, the Seine swollen by the waters of the Oise and Marne is a strong defensive obstacle.

#### IV

##### *Conclusions Derived from Topographic Study*

As a result of our terrain and geographic study it should be clearly apparent that any zone of advance assigned to the "R" Army will traverse numerous streams many of which will present serious difficulties. *A purely mechanized force would be unable to seize the necessary bridgeheads to cover its bridging operations.* Consequently, while it would be desirable to reinforce the "R" Army with mechanization, the latter would be forced to await the arrival of horse cavalry or infantry in trucks at each of the streams we have considered to take bridgeheads so as to protect the construction of bridges. The theater of operations of mechanization would be greatly restricted by the topographic difficulties encountered. Needless to say however, all available mechanization would be attached to the "R" Army. Let us assume a brigade. As a further result of our terrain study it is evident we must attach a large number of both light and heavy bridge equipage.

Finally, if this force is to operate on wide enveloping lines, it will need heavy reinforcement in medium long range artillery. At least three regiments of 105 mm. guns of the long range French type must be assigned.<sup>a</sup> These guns will be utilized in long range (12,000-14,000 yards) interdiction during the enveloping action.

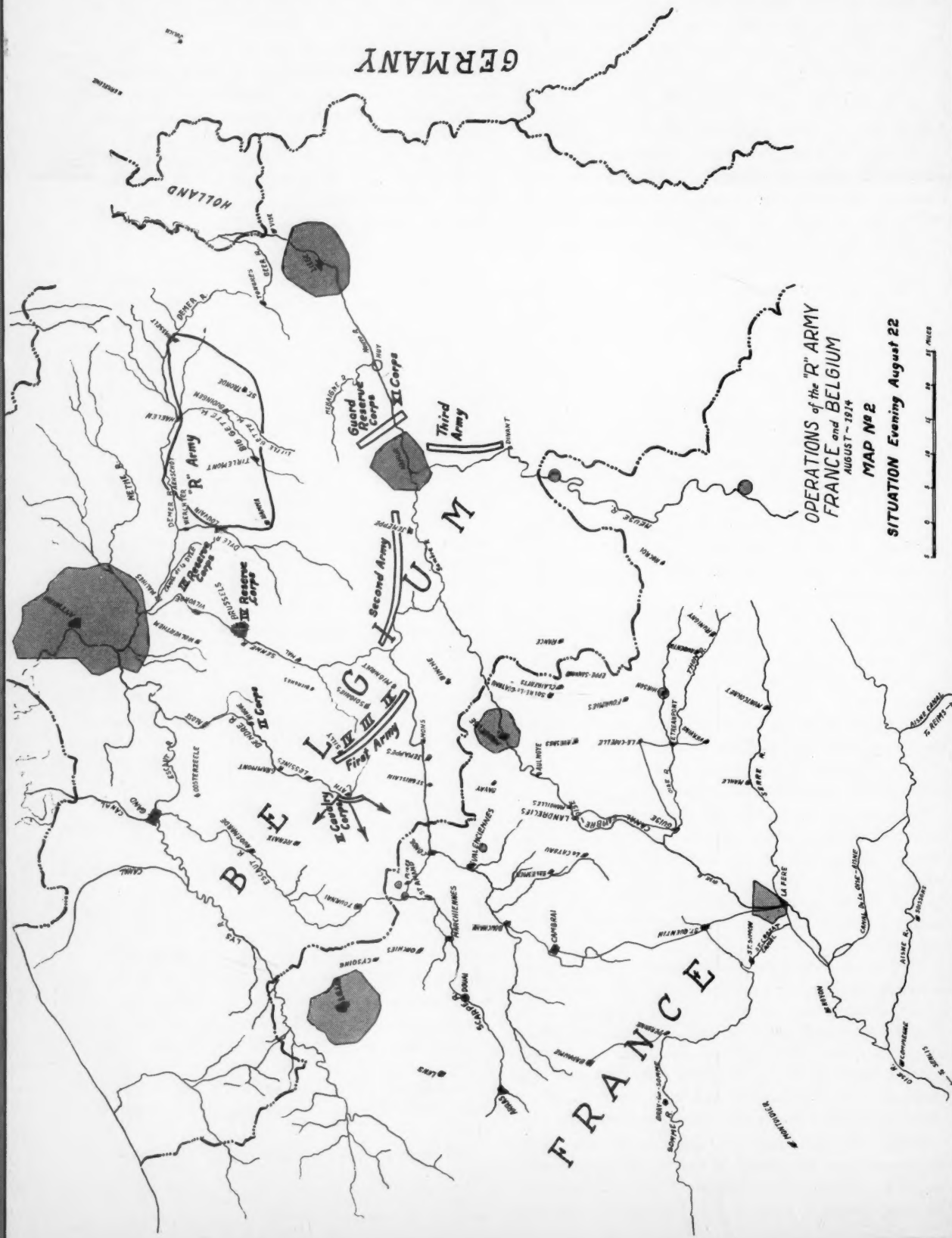
At least four observation squadrons (aviation) should be attached.

During the advance along the line of communications the "R" Army will be protected from hostile air force intervention by the semi-permanent antiaircraft installations of the line of communications as well as by GHQ pursuit. When and if this Army is launched in the encirclement, it will need an attachment of antiaircraft artillery (automobile mounted). This attachment should number approximately three regiments. GHQ pursuit aviation must also be made available on call to the "R" Army.

Nine Jäger battalions are already an organic part of the three corps. These of course should be transported in trucks.

Each division has a squadron of combat engineers or-

<sup>a</sup>American artillery, strange to say, has no comparatively light artillery of this type suitable for attachment to mobile units and capable of long range interdiction.



OPERATIONS of the "R" ARMY  
FRANCE and BELGIUM  
AUGUST - 1914

MAP No 2  
SITUATION Evening August 22



ganically. A large number of light pontoon companies and at least six heavy battalions (engineer) will be attached to the Army.

Of horse cavalry there will be eighty-four squadrons in the three corps.

# V

## *The Advance and Strategic Employment of the "R" Army*

On August 21, 1914, the Second Army began to develop its columns and prepared to wheel to the south by pivoting on Namur. The advance detachments of the French Fifth Army had fallen back across the Sambre. General von Bülow, provisionally in command of the Army Group of the First and Second Armies, issued the following order:

"On August 22d, the Second Army will advance to the line:

Binche—Jemeppe

for the purpose of crossing the Sambre on the 23d, thereby facilitating the crossing of the Meuse by the Third Army which is advancing on the line of the Meuse south of Namur.

"The first Army covering itself in the direction of Antwerp and leaving a garrison in Brussels, will participate in this movement by investing the north and northwest forts of the Maubeuge area, and enveloping this fortress from the west."

On the 22d, in compliance with these orders, the First Army advanced to the line: (See map No. 2.)

Silly—Soignies—Mignault

with the IV, III, and IX Corps in line from west to east. The II Corps, refused on the right flank, reached Ninove, while the III Reserve Corps took up a covering position along the Canal de la Dyle between Louvain and Malines. The IV Reserve Corps reached Brussels on this same day. The II Cavalry Corps, covering the provisional Army group was at this time concentrated in the region of Ath.

The "R" Army has reached the area:

Aerschot — Louvain — Hamma — Tirlemont — St. Tronde—Hasselt and has security detachments on its north flank along the Demer.

Such was the picture, when late on the 22d a number of reports began to arrive disclosing the sudden appearance of English troops in the area east of Condé.

In spite of the objections of General von Kluck, Army Commander, the First Army was ordered to continue its wheel to the south on the following day. Accordingly, General von Kluck issued the following instructions for the 23d:

"The IV Corps will advance into the region northeast of Condé. The III Corps will move on St. Ghislain and Jemappes. The II Corps will move from Ninove to the area west of Lessines. The IX Corps will protect the left flank of the Army against a possible sortie from Maubeuge by moving toward the north and northeast fortifications of this place. The IV Reserve Corps will move southwest from Brussels into the Bierghes area (southwest of Hal). No change in the mission of the III Reserve Corps."

In the meantime sufficient information had arrived to show that English troops were in the area north of the line:

Valenciennes—Maubeuge.

Mons was reported occupied by the English. On the other hand the entire area east of the Escaut as far south as Condé was reported free of the enemy. The direction: Tournai—Lille was also reported clear.

Let us now place ourselves at GHQ in Coblenz and estimate the situation.

Five French Armies have been identified along the western front. Of these, the First, Second, Third, and Fourth are on a more or less continuous front from the Ardennes to the lower Vosges. The Fifth has been pushed hastily north to the Sambre, leaving a considerable gap between it and the Fourth Army. This gap should be closed by reserves, that is, *if reserves are available*.

The English have appeared in the Mons area. Presumably they have but recently disembarked and have been rushed to this part of the front. If important French reserves were available, would they not have been employed long before this to cover the left flank of the Fifth Army? Would the English have been placed on the left of the Fifth Army if the French had any important constituted reserves available? Aerial reconnaissance revealed nothing to the west of Condé as far as Lille.

Our Third Army is engaged against the line of the Meuse south of Namur.

At right angles to the Third Army, our Second Army is pushing south against the line of the Sambre.

To the west of the Second Army, the First Army is wheeling to the south toward the line:

Condé—Binche.

This attack will strike the English frontally and may overlap their west flank. The First Army has the II Corps and the IV Reserve Corps available to extend its attack to the west of Condé.

The Second Cavalry Corps is covering the right flank.

Is the time ripe for the launching of the mobile reserve? The answer lies in the situation of the enemy west of the line:

Tournai—Valenciennes—LaFere.

In other words, are there any strong forces of the enemy in this region?

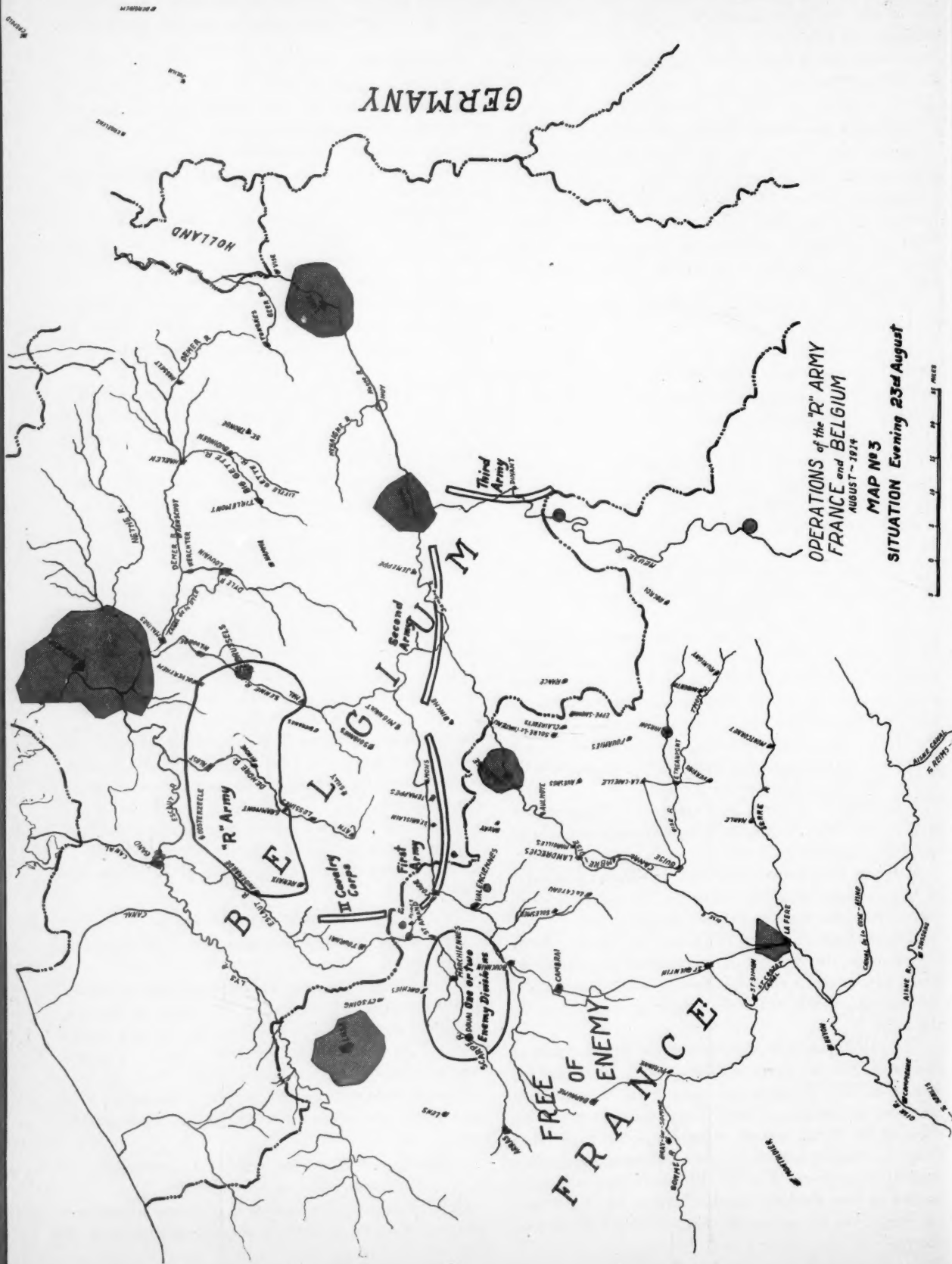
This information can be obtained by aerial reconnaissance and in the meanwhile the "R" Army can begin its movement on the 23d to the west into the area vacated by the First Army which has turned south. The west flank will still be protected by the II Cavalry Corps.

In accordance with the foregoing estimate orders are issued at once for the movement of the "R" Army into the area:

Brussels—Wolverthem—Alost—Costerzele—

Audenarde—Renaix—Grammont—Hal.

GHQ reconnaissance aviation is given specific missions covering all principal roads in the area southwest of the line:



OPERATIONS of the "P" ARMY  
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MAP No 3  
SITUATION Evening 23rd August



Lille—Marle,

as far south as the Marne. Reports are required before dark of the 23rd.

By evening of the 23rd, negative reports are available from the aviation that this area, at least as far south as Amiens, is free of large enemy forces. Southwest of Tournai there appeared to be some French forces consisting possibly of one or two divisions.

During the day, both the First and Second Armies encountered stubborn resistance along the Condé—Namur front. The "R" Army after a long difficult march had its leading elements on the Escaut.

The moment has arrived! GHQ decides to initiate the turning movement of the "R" Army. Orders are issued the evening of the 23rd for the II Cavalry Corps to advance on the 24th to the line Cysoing—Lens for the purpose of protecting the outer flank of the encircling cavalry against any thrust from Lille. (See map No. 3.)

The "R" Army is ordered to move on the 24th on the axis:

Renaix—Tournai—Orchies—Douai

on the area:

Bapaume—Cambrai—Marchiennes—Douai—Arras. This movement must be completed by noon of the 25th. All units of the Army are ordered to be west of the road: Audenarde—Condé by evening of the 24th.

The situation as pictured by the First Army on the evening of the 24th is shown by the report which it addressed to the High Command at 9 P.M. (See map No. 4.)

"The First Army after violent fighting has thrown back two or three English divisions toward the line:

Valenciennes—Bavay

The principal enemy position is thought to be on this same line. The First Army will attack this position on the 25th and will endeavor to envelop the enemy left wing."

Hardly had this report been dispatched however, than the picture began to change. The II Corps of the First Army announced that according to captured orders, one English cavalry and four infantry divisions, as well as a French territorial brigade were identified on the front:

Flines—Condé—Mons.

and were falling back in the direction of Maubeuge.

As a result of this information the First Army pushed the II, IV, and III Corps in a southerly direction toward the line:

LeCateau—Landrecies

in a close-in envelopment of the English left.

The Second Army which was opposing the French Fifth Army along the Sambre found that the enemy had started a withdrawal to the southwest on the morning of the 24th.

No time could be lost. On the evening of the 24th, the "R" Army is ordered to complete the movement into the area prescribed by noon of the 25th and then changing direction, to advance toward the line:

LaFere—Guise.

Advance guards must reach the Somme between St. Simon and St. Quentin by dark of the 25th. The mechan-

ized force is given the mission of pushing on to the Oise and of crossing this river south of Guise *if crossings of the Somme and Oise are available and not defended in force.* The mechanized brigade, once successfully across the Oise, will then push on without delay to the region of Marle and dispatch detachments to hold all crossings of the upper Oise and the Thon east of Guise. All of the motorized Jäger battalions are attached to the brigade.

On the evening of the 25th, the situation was as follows: (See map No. 5.)

(1) The First Army, pushed to the limit of its endurance reached the line:

Bouchain—Solesmes—Landrecies—Aulnoye.

At Solesmes and Landrecies, the IV Corps of this Army encountered strong resistance which lasted far into the night. The English I Corps was identified in the area south of Landrecies while the English II Corps was found to be in the area south of LeCateau.

(2) The Second Army had reached the line:

Solre Le Chateau—Clairfayts—Eppe Sauvage—Rance. The French Fifth Army which had opposed our Second Army on the Sambre was known to be generally on the line:

Rocroi—Fourmies—Amesnes—Maroilles.

The "R" Army had reached the Somme north and south of St. Quentin after a few minor skirmishes with French territorial troops. The mechanized brigade reinforced by the Jäger battalions in trucks has found the crossings over the Somme and the Oise north of LaFere to be in good condition and undefended. It has therefore concentrated in the region of Marle and has detachments holding all crossings of the upper Oise and the Thon east of Guise.

At 3 A.M. on the 26th, the I and III Cavalry Corps renewed their movement to the southeast, crossing the Oise between LaFere and Guise. The enveloping march from the line of the Escaut north of Condé on the 24th and up until noon of the 25th was made with the IV and III Corps in first echelon moving southwest, the IV Corps on the right. The I Corps followed the III Corps. On the afternoon of the 25th, the I and III Corps advanced on the line of the Oise between LaFere and Guise with the III Corps on the right. The IV Corps, due to the change of direction, now followed the III Corps.

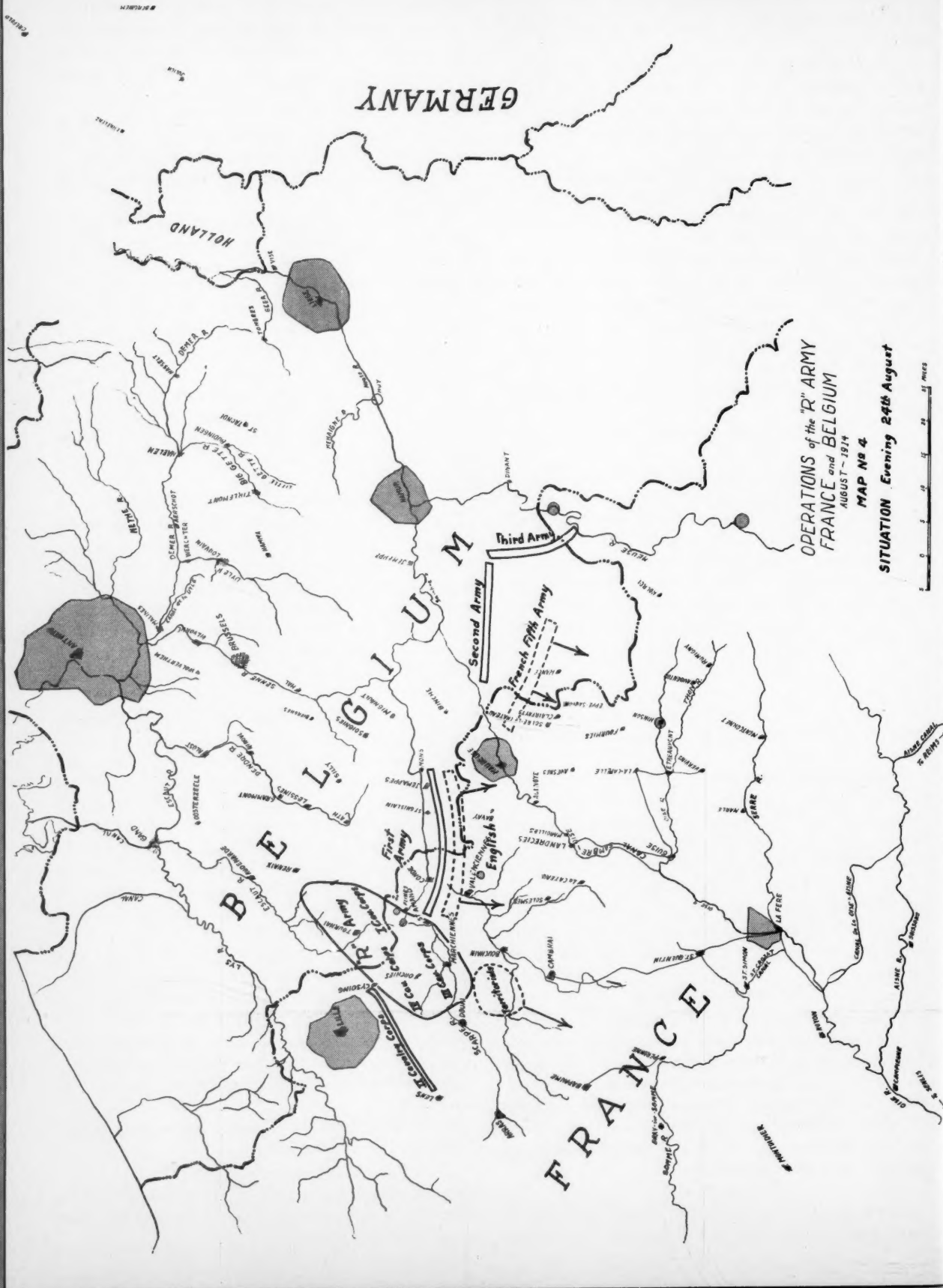
The Somme at St. Quentin and the line of the Oise was found to be unprotected and the bridges intact so that the mechanized brigade was able to move directly from the Cambrai area into the region of the Marle.

By noon of the 26th, the I Corps has taken over the line of the upper Oise from Etreaupont to Guise, employing its two divisions (the Guard and Fifth) abreast. (See map No. 6.)

At this same time, the III Corps was moving rapidly toward the Thon on the line:

Rumigny—Etreaupont.

It has the 7th and 8th division in line with the 8th on the right. The Bavarian division followed by way of LaFere in rear of the 8th division.



GERMANY

HOLLAND

First Army

Second Army

Third Army

French Fifth Army

English

Belgium

FRANCE

OPERATIONS of the "R" ARMY  
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MAP No 4

SITUATION Evening 24th August



At 1 P.M. of the 26th, the IV Corps had its leading elements on the line St. Simon—St. Quentin and was continuing its advance toward the Oise.

The retreating French and English began arriving at the upper Oise and the Thon early on the morning of the 26th but as yet have been unable to force a crossing against the mechanized brigade and the Jäger battalions. In the meanwhile the direct pressure of the First and Second Armies is making itself felt.

The Engineer troops with the I Corps were beginning the destruction of the bridges over the upper Oise early in the afternoon.

One regiment of 105's has been attached to the I Corps and one to the III Corps, initially. These two regiments have moved with the leading echelons of these Corps. The 105's with the I Corps have already begun interdiction fires on the following roads:

Vervins—LaCapelle

Guise—LaCapelle

Guise—Landrecies.

The 105 regiment with the III Corps will go into position along the heights south of Aubenton with interdiction missions to the north.

The third 105 regiment will be pushed rapidly under Army control to the area north of Vervins where it will perform interdiction missions in the Hirson—LaCapelle region.

The I and III Corps have been given missions to prevent the French and English from crossing the Oise prolonged to the east by the Thon. These two corps therefore based their plans on holding the river line lightly and maintaining large horse cavalry reserves.

Upon crossing the lower Oise, the IV Corps will move into army reserve in the general area south of Marle. It may be called upon to operate in the region south of Rumigny.

As rapidly as the mechanized brigade can be relieved by the I and III Corps it will be assembled in the region west of Montcornet in reserve prepared to move to any part of the front or to protect the right flank in the area south of Rumigny by either offensive or defensive action.

While orders have been given the "R" Army to hold along the upper Oise and the Thon, if, by any chance, it is forced to retire, it will be able to delay the enemy to such an extent that the First Army will succeed in driving home its close-in envelopment from the west.

The virtual destruction of the French Fifth Army and the English accomplished, the combined First, Second and "R" Army have only to continue south to complete the envelopment of the Verdun area and the French center.

## VI

### *Alternate Capabilities of the "R" Army.*

The maneuver of a rapidly moving enveloping force which we have just described was predicated upon a number of favorable factors. Without these conditions, such a maneuver would have been extremely difficult.

(1) We have presupposed highly trained and seasoned

troops. These troops were required to march fifty to sixty miles in each twenty-four hours.

(2) Next, we have assumed both GHQ and "R" Army staffs capable of solving the complicated supply and logistical problems connected with the movement. Unless carefully worked out by these staffs, such a maneuver would have resulted in chaos.

(3) The movement of the "R" Army, if executed to-day, would have required strong anti-aircraft protection. This protection would have taken the form of attached anti-aircraft regiments and what is still more important, the almost complete aerial interdiction of the route of advance of the "R" Army by the German GHQ Air Force at least for the days of the 24th, 25th and 26th.

(4) We know from history that the Allies had very little west of the Escaut capable of stopping the advance of the "R" Army. In this whole area, there were only the 81st, 82nd and 84th Territorial Divisions reinforced by the 88th Division of the Paris garrison. In addition, of course, was the highly immobile garrison of Lille. Of these troops, on the 23rd, the 84th Division was in the Valenciennes area, the 82nd in the region of Lille. However feeble these effectives, they might, however, have afforded sufficient delay to the "R" Army as to have prevented it from reaching the upper Oise prior to the arrival thereof of French Fifth Army.

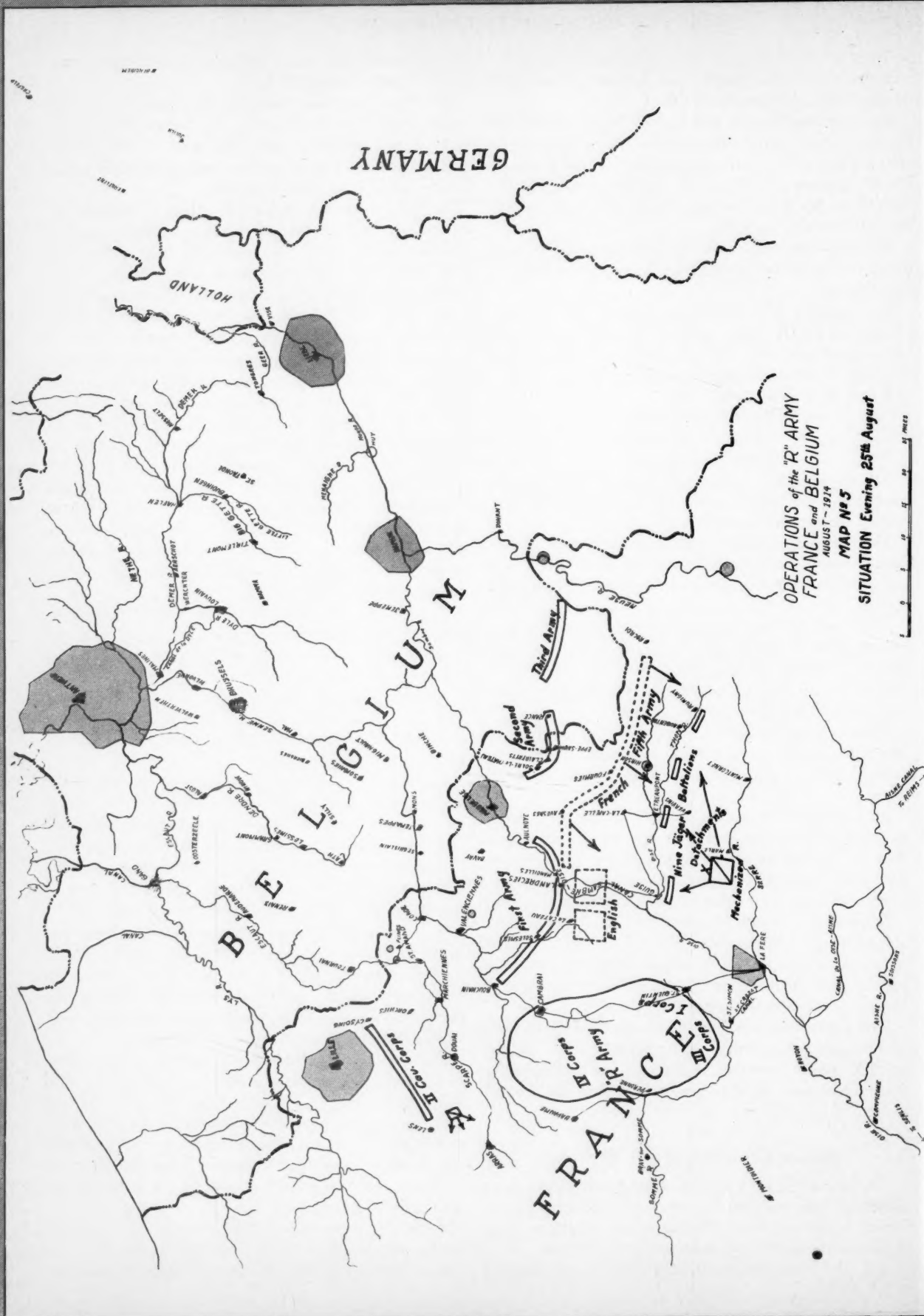
(5) Finally, we have placed our mobile enveloping force directly under the command of GHQ and not subordinated it to the orders of the Army Group Commander of the right wing.

A failure of any of the above first four ideal conditions would have resulted in delay. A failure of the fifth would have made the plan completely inoperative and will require no further discussion.

Let us however consider a situation due to any of the above causes which might have delayed the "R" Army one or several days. Would such a delay have prevented this army from accomplishing the mission assigned it, the encirclement of the Allies? Might there, and would there have been alternate plans for the employment of this force? If so, what form would they have taken?

As to whether alternate plans would have been prepared, the answer is most emphatically—YES! To determine their strategic form we must again refer to the topography of the theater of operations south of the Bapaume—Cambrai line. As a premise to this topographic study however, we can assume a movement of the "R" Army into or on the Bapaume—Cambrai—Marchiennes—Douai—Arras area on the 24th and 25th of August as strategically sound. The wheel to the south of the First and Second Armies dictated that this direction be assigned the "R" Army. Consequently we must consider this objective as without alternative even though its attainment might have been delayed by the numerous reasons already indicated.

From this Bapaume—Cambrai line which we in the future will designate as the first strategic objective, the future direction of the "R" Army might be southeast,



south or southwest depending on the situation in front of the First and Second Armies. Obviously, the mission assigned will remain the same, viz: the encirclement and interception of the English and the French Fifth Army.

A terrain study indicates clearly that the Oise and its tributaries forms the principal topographic features of military importance in this area,—at least as far south as the Marne. The Oise valley proper provides a natural line of retreat for the British and French Fifth Army for three principal reasons:

(1) It leads to the fortified area of Paris where a defense can be hinged on the fortifications either to the west or east thereof.

(2) Its direction is southwest and only by taking this direction, can the Allies escape the threatened envelopment.

(3) The tributaries of the Oise, particularly these of the left bank as well as the Somme prolonged by the St. Crozat Canal between Peronne and LaFere on the right offer numerous excellent defensive or delaying positions against an enemy advancing from the north or northeast.

Now the mission of the "R" Army requires it to place itself astride the line of retreat of the enemy. Quite obviously, this line of retirement can not have its principal axis far west of the valley of the Oise. This axis must, of necessity, be either the line of the Oise itself or still further to the east. If it becomes evident from a study of time and space factors that an advance of the "R" Army from the first strategic objective toward the LaFere—Guise line of the Oise will be so retarded as to become fruitless, then it is quite clear that the envelopment will be forced to assume wider proportions. In this event, a second strategic "position in readiness" is indicated south of the first objective and still to the west of the Oise. The zone of advance to such an objective might well be that limited by the following National Highways:

On the east:

Cambrai—St. Quentin—LaFere.

On the west:

Bapaume—Peronne—Montdidier—Estrees—St Denis.

The Army should advance thirty-five or forty miles to the south in this zone, gradually shifting its center of gravity during this movement to the east if the enemy situation indicates the possibility of seizing the south bank of the Serre before the arrival of the mass of the enemy thereat. Since we classified the upper Oise as the first and most desirable tactical objective of the army, so then, the Serre becomes our second selection or first alternate tactical objective.

If, on the other hand, we find that the enemy retreat has been so rapid that in all probability he will reach the Serre before the "R" Army, the latter will continue its movement to the south in the general direction of Noyon or Compiègne with the view of crossing the Oise and intercepting the enemy on the line of either the Canal de la Oise or the Aisne. In this event, the area northwest of Noyon becomes the second alternate strategical objective, while that to the northwest of Compiègne is the third. Likewise the south banks of the Canal de la Oise and the

Aisne are designated respectively as the second and third alternate tactical objectives.

Needless to say, this movement of the "R" Army on successive strategic objectives west of the Oise will be made as rapidly as possible. The direction given it will conform strictly with the conclusions of successive Intelligence Estimates.

If the "R" Army is boldly, skillfully and energetically led, it is difficult to conceive of any possibility of it being so long delayed by the feeble territorials of D'Amade as to prevent it from reaching the Aisne. If however this inconceivable thing should happen, the "R" Army, still west of the Oise, would push on to the southwest to a fourth strategic objective. Such a movement would, of course, render impossible the subsequent September counter-offensive of the French Sixth Army by striking the left flank of the latter from the direction of Senlis.

## VII

### Conclusions

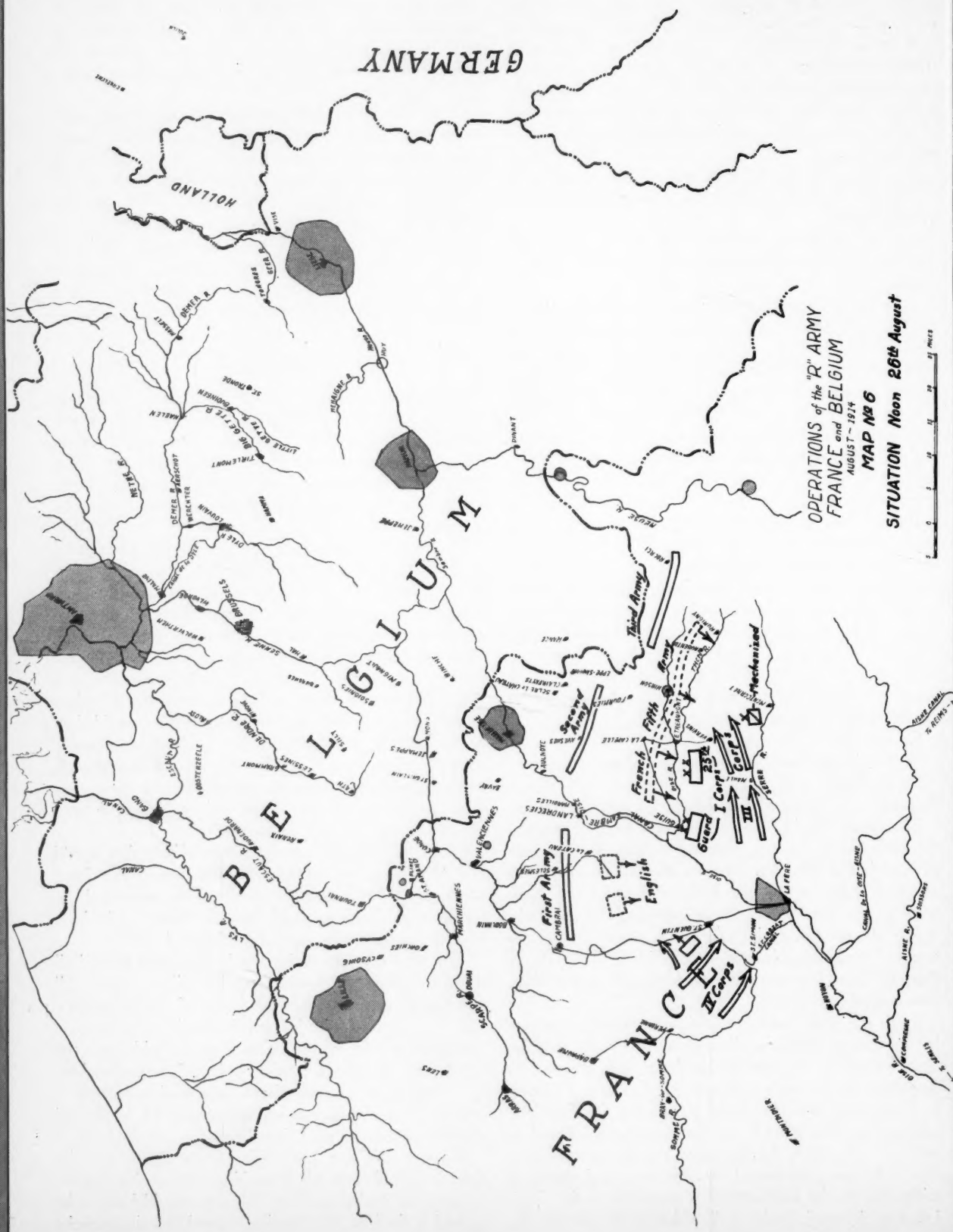
We have projected the foregoing strategic study into our day, considering the possible complications which might be injected therein by the recent rapid development of the modern arms of air and mechanization. This fact that the operation was conducted in the realm of conjecture is not in any sense an indication that it might be impractical under modern conditions.

This very operation could have actually been successful in 1914 had the Germans massed all of their cavalry corps on the north flank. It would have been an excellent opportunity of succeeding even without the reinforcements which we assigned to it for we know from history that the French had little with which to oppose it. A condition existed in 1914 however, which will perhaps never happen again. The French maintained the majority of the bridges in this area intact because they thought they would then be available for their own use during a counter offensive advance! However this peculiar logic is not so extraordinarily unbelievable when we realize that this same doctrine was taught in our Command and General Staff School during the 1920-1930 decade.

Could the Germans have been assured that they would find all bridges intact and had they possessed a large mechanized force heavily reinforced in motorized infantry, the mission assigned the "R" Army might have been accomplished by such a mechanized army.

Any such operation today would be certain to find all streams utilized as obstacles to the fullest extent. All permanent crossings would be destroyed. Wherever possible all low lands would be inundated. In addition, a systematic scheme of road demolitions would cover the entire road net. Mechanization and truck transported infantry would be rendered almost completely impotent—immobile; mechanization because of streams, motorized infantry because of road demolitions.

There is only one irrefutable answer. *Horse Cavalry* alone is the only arm which could perform such a mission in the prescribed time. Even this arm would have to be pushed to the limit of its endurance to bring the encircle-



GERMANY

OPERATIONS of the "R" ARMY  
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MAP No 6

SITUATION Noon 26th August



ment to a successful dénouement. What we have prescribed in the foregoing maneuver requires horse cavalry of a very high order. It was not however beyond the capabilities of such cavalry. The German cavalry of 1914 was capable of performing such a task. It actually did execute aimless marches of equal length but to no purpose. It must be stated however that the German Cavalry went into the war highly trained. Huge annual maneuvers of cavalry divisions as well as their employment in army maneuvers afforded opportunities for thorough and unified preparation of both leaders and men.

Cavalry is a delicate arm. It cannot be created overnight. It requires a much longer time to train it than it does to train infantry. Its officers cannot be developed thoroughly into real cavalry leaders except after numerous large scale maneuvers. Such maneuvers are not possible for our cavalry because of its dispersion in small units throughout the United States. The cavalry of either the

France or Germany of today is of sufficient strength, properly organized and trained to play the rôle we have suggested. If this is true of continental cavalry in the restricted theaters of western Europe, how much more important is it that we have a highly mobile force prepared for any eventuality! In this connection, we must not make the mistake of England. We must not place all of our eggs in one basket and consider mechanization as the sole answer to the problem of mobility. Unless the American horoscope foresees years of static warfare of attrition, we must have a strong mobile peace time force to exploit the strategical opportunities created by our infantry masses in war of movement. It is only by such an instrument that a war can be brought to a speedy, decisive and successful conclusion.

Finally, until mechanization possesses the cross-country, cross stream capabilities of the horse, the *principal* mass of this mobile force must consist of *horse* cavalry.



## Time Marches On!

### OLD GLORY

For three days last week the cagiest David Harums of the United States milled around a rectangular tanbark enclosure on Manhattan's Squadron A armory, squinting knowingly as 226 harness horses were trotted or paced, one by one, up and down the narrow track. Walking sticks flashed in the air as bids were raised again and again and the raucous-voiced auctioneer pounded his gavel, announced the buyers. Thus was sold \$206,000 worth of United States horseflesh at the 43d annual Old Glory Sale, capping the most successful year in the history of United States harness racing.

The best harness horses in the world are bred in the United States. Greatest standard-bred nursery in the world is Walnut Hall Farm, near Lexington, Ky., owned by Dr. and Mrs. Ogden M. Edwards Jr. (née Lela Harkness, Standard Oil heiress). For the past 23 years, Walnut Hall has averaged 100 foals a year, has bred more trotting champions than any other United States stud. This year Walnut Hall sold 95 yearlings at the Old Glory Sale, more than any other nursery, grossing \$113,985, an average of approximately \$1,200 per horse. Walnut Hall also re-

ceived the highest bid price—\$6,800 from Brooklyn Sportsman William Strang Jr. for the yearling *Princess Margaret*.

Day before, however, in a private sale, William Strang himself received the highest price actually paid this year—\$20,000 for *Twilight Song* (2:01 1/4), champion 2-year-old of 1936. Alleged buyer: Italy's Benito Mussolini. For to this year's Old Glory Sale came European agents who effected the biggest exodus of United States harness horses since the turn of the century. To Austria, Germany, France and Italy went 58 horses of the finest blood lines in the United States. Italy was the biggest buyer, obviously intent on getting the finest stock at any price. The reason was not merely the immense popularity of harness racing in Italy. Ringside gossip had it that Italian experiences in Ethiopia and Spain, plus the European oil crisis have made it highly necessary that Mussolini modify his motorization plans and pay more attention to improving the breed of his cavalry stock. Nobody has yet invented a truck that can use grass for fuel.\*

\**Time*, December 6, 1937.

# Mass and the Cavalry Leader

Major E. S. Johnston, Infantry

"MASS," magic word, that says so much and can mean so little! Military mystery, professional bugaboo, and—in the form of "a violation of the Principle of Mass"—a portent to make strong men shudder.

"Mass" may mean numbers; it may indicate the greater part of a force; it may refer to a formation, a concentration, an overconcentration; it may connote power. When, within a few sentences, it is used indiscriminately to mean all of these, or several, it comes to mean simply nothing. It can be a mere pompous windbag of a word, a generality so general that it has no substance; or it can signify a clean-cut, purposeful idea exceedingly useful to men who need such words to express such ideas. There never was a finer word to veil futility or confuse fact—nor ever a more useful word if the user appreciates its uses.

In physics, "mass" is the amount of matter in a body. In our profession, usage has established a similar meaning as to *force*. In the military sense, mass is fundamentally the ability to develop energy—to produce power. Therefore it has also come to mean the amount of power inherent in a military body. This usage has its correlates in other walks of life, for military mass corresponds to the inherent ability of anything to build or to destroy.

The power which can be developed by any agency depends in the first instance on its inherent ability to develop energy of the type needed for the purpose. But the power *actually* developed is the result of other factors, also. It is influenced by all the factors of every description which exist under the conditions obtaining in the particular situation.

Mass, therefore, in the military sense, resulting as it does from so many varying components, is not a constant thing. It is, as General MacArthur put it, the algebraic sum, or perhaps it is the product, of all the capabilities of the creature to which it pertains, and of all the conditions in the locality where that creature must live (if it lives), move (if it moves), or in any event have its being. As these factors change from moment to moment, mass must change with them. A shortage of ammunition, a lack of fuel oil or lubricants, a poor meal after a hard day, the arrival of a batch of untrained replacements—any of these factors, or thousands of others, may make a critical difference as to mass.

Mass, important though it be, is nevertheless but one element in the constitution of power. The inherent power-producing capabilities of any agency, as influenced by the conditions where it is employed, are not the whole story. The effects of mass are also modified by the position of the agency, by its "life" or endurance, and by its susceptibility of control. Of what use, for instance, is a fine water-pump, if it is beyond the reach of water, or if its life is too disproportionate to its cost, or if its output cannot be regu-

lated at the regulator's will? Of what use is a military agency, if it is not in the proper position, or if it is too vulnerable to make its power felt, or if its action cannot be controlled in intensity and time?

Position, inherent power, endurance, and response to control: these characteristics, common, though in varying degree, to everything under the sun, result from the innate capabilities and limitations of the object to which they pertain, as influenced by the conditions of the moment. Determined, as these characteristics are, by the same causes, there is a relativity among them. Since they all spring from the same sources, each appears to be in some sort dependent on the others, and all of them, together, determine a fifth characteristic:—the purpose which they, and the thing to which they pertain, are fitted to serve.

Mass is therefore but one aspect of combat power. If power is to be effectively applied, some one must determine for what purpose mass is to be utilized, where it is to be placed, in what amount and type, and how it is to be protected. And the whole arrangement may fail of the effect desired unless the apportioned mass, so directed, so placed, and so protected, is properly controlled.

But while mass is not the whole story, it is to this extent the all-important aspect of combat power, in that without it nothing can be done. The wrong direction, location in the wrong position, deficiencies of protection, defects in control—these always cause waste of power, and may cause failure; but without the inherent ability to produce power there could be nothing to direct, place, protect, or control.

Accurate evaluation of mass is therefore a fundamental requirement in a soldier. According to Freeman, this faculty was the outstanding military characteristic of Robert E. Lee. It has been remarked as highly developed in Great Captains such as Prince Eugene. When it is lacking, trouble is in store. When, owing to fatigue, disease, age, or what not, it is no longer dependable, misfortune cannot be far away. Certainly it was the weakening of this trait which marked the decline in Napoleon when his pituitary gland failed him, and even before death began to gnaw at his vitals. As this ability to "weigh mass" is no mysterious power, but the faculty of evaluating the capabilities of men, weapons, and transport under the conditions of the moment, it follows that nothing else will substitute for a working knowledge of the characteristics of the means of action. No mastery of the theory of war, important though that can be, can compensate for lack of appreciation of the changes effected in these characteristics because of the influence of the particular situation.

To ascribe to any one factor in the make-up of mass an

influence out of proportion to its true value in the existing situation, is to form a distorted estimate of possibilities. Generally noted as a primary fault of the high command on both sides during the World War, this error often took the form of overestimating the effect of mere numbers. In 1914 the lance, saber, or bayonet was still the conventional European symbol for computing combat power. A mental habit of that sort displays a tenacious obstinacy in the face of facts. The internal evidence of Foch's own writings, remarked upon by serious commentators, shows his pre-war tendency to count numbers as strength, and there is evidence based on close personal acquaintance that it took quite a lot of war to bring him to see the light.

Now, adequate numbers are essential to proper mass, but numbers, alone, as Ludendorf thought well to remark, do not necessarily mean strength. If this were not so, nations would not fight; they would merely count heads and abide by the result. If numbers were always decisive, we could have little ground for pride in our profession; but, thank Heaven, God is on the side of the Good Glands and the Bright Brains as well as of the Big Battalions. The Good Lord has included many, many variables in the ballet of war, and only a practical knowledge of men and things can insure that the count as cast up be even approximately correct.

The errors of the World War stand out the more because modern invention made available on a large scale a whole series of new agencies. With the potentialities of these, too many senior officers were not acquainted by personal, and practical, experience. To visualize what he can do with his command, a commander must *know* what his men can do with their equipment, and what the enemy, with his, can do to them.

Without accurate appreciation of mass, a commander cannot—except by accident—decide correctly even the first element of any plan. He cannot, without such appreciation, determine properly what objectives are within the bounds of attainment. Without this faculty he cannot—except by accident—act effectively, because he cannot provide adequately for that essential minimum of security without which effective action is simply impossible. Without the ability to weigh mass, a commander cannot expect to exercise effective control; the enemy can disrupt his control by taking advantage of his faulty apportionment of mass. For the cavalryman, because of the speed of his operations, the rapid and accurate estimate of the effects of mass is by all odds the most important element in the game.

The purpose of applying mass is to influence enemy action as desired, either by actual use of power or by threat. The method is to move mass from position to position, wherever the desired effects can best be attained. Accordingly, the effort of the commander is so to locate his mass, with reference to the enemy's, that he can accomplish his purpose with the least impairment of mass for future operations. It is a military platitude, but never stale for all that, that a relatively small force of the right character in the right place at the right time can accom-

plish more than relatively large forces, not so well adapted to the task, which are located in the wrong place or appear at the right one too early or too late.

Maneuver and mass, properly directed, protected, and controlled, are the Romulus and Remus of success in war. Mass and maneuver are the twins who found the empire of victory. Attaining the right position with the right mass at the right time, and with the minimum of wastage due to fighting, is the hallmark of the great commander. This does not mean that he is averse to fighting; it means that he is averse to fighting in the wrong place at the wrong time.

In the last few years, our Army, led by the great school on the Missouri, has initiated a revolution in its concept of maneuver. The new idea is of course not new; it is merely a return to correct ideas which we had forgotten to remember. In spite of the warnings of wise men, such as Pershing, in spite of the basis laid for us years ago by far-seeing men, such as Morrison, we had allowed ourselves to think too much of one form of war—the most recent war. We were exploiting, too little, the possibilities of movement. Our tendency has been, too long, to seek battle rather than to pursue the best-way of accomplishing the task. And, when battle was essential, our ambitions soared at the highest to the level of the close-in envelopment. Turning movements and wide envelopments were dangerous “in principle” (whatever *that* may be!), and more especially because of the risk of dispersion and of defeat in detail.

But there is dispersion and dispersion. It is just as wrong to have too little as it is to have too much. The point is, to determine the right amount of dispersion; and that, like everything else, depends on the characteristics of the means of action and on the conditions in the area of operations. What happened, then, when our vague fear of dispersion gave way to some earnest study of hard facts? It was found that, owing to the defensive power of contemporary forces, the risks of dispersion and of defeat in detail are now much less than they were in the good old days when the good old “principles” were formulated. We had lived too long in a vanished age, we had failed even to absorb the lessons of our last war, and, like the high commands of Europe in the World War, we had lost practical touch with the actual capabilities and limitations of our means of action. As a result of some realistic weighing of mass (as mass is today), we now see marches on a wide front, and the wide envelopment is no longer a rarity.

But the job is only partly done. There remains a similar problem as to apportioning mass. There is work to be done as to the current notion that a holding attack, for instance, is made with something less than half the force, while something more than that is employed in the “mass” (another meaning of the word) which drives forward or maneuvers to strike. This idea is embodied in our basic book of doctrine (the FSR, 1923); or, rather, it is embedded there, so impacted that extraction may involve a certain amount of shock. The idea of the large

striking mass and the small fixing force is so firmly fixed in our doctrine that it amounts to a psychological fixation. Now, shock is sometimes very useful in mental cases, and, in any case, better a shock from which we can recover than a slow poisoning of our whole system from decay at the roots.

Strangely enough, our conventionalized idea of mass and maneuver in attack was not the favorite method of either Alexander or Napoleon. Alexander's phalanx struck the hostile front with the bulk of his force, while away out on the flank his light horse and foot maneuvered to provide security and to create a gap by drawing hostile strength to that locality. Then, if necessary, the King and his heavy cavalry, at the critical moment, thundered down the pathway between the two attacks to gain the decision.

Napoleon also liked to engage frontally in force, while bringing up a far-flung flanking movement to divert hostile troops from the front. Then, when a gap opened in the enemy front, into it was hurled the Napoleonic reserve to strike the fatal blow.

Yet, much as Napoleon liked the wide-enveloping threat, he knew when not to apply it. In what was perhaps the critical battle of his career, when nearly everything hung upon his decision—the battle before which all was a climb toward triumph, and after which all was a slipping down toward ruin—in short, at Borodino, he rejected the wide envelopment because he hoped above all things that the Russians would stand and fight it out, and he feared, with good reason, that they would use good judgment and retreat again.

It may be that our pendulum has swung too far, and that the far-flung maneuver, once too little employed in comparison with close-in enveloping attacks, now bids fair to become an equal fetish. But some fine day, at last, when the idea of proportion<sup>1</sup> really gets its grip upon us, we will settle down to the correct concept—that any of these variations, and all of them, depend upon the situation.

An almost equal fault has been our easy acceptance of the idea that there is but one form of activity for the attack: that is, to attack; moreover, that holding attacks merely contain the enemy, while flanking attacks strike the fatal blow. But Alexander expected that his heavy infantry, all of which was put into the frontal attack, would not only contain but go through and do the business. On the other hand, Napoleon hoped that his frontal attack would win the day, but did not expect it; he held yet further hopes of his flanking effort, but he did not bank on it, either. His real weapon of decision was his reserve, and so was Alexander's—though the one fully expected to use it, and the other hoped he need not.

By contrast, Lee, on the offensive, quite usually held out no reserve at all. Once he got into his stride, he tried to avoid the error of his Union opponents, who often held out huge reserves and never used them; having estimated

the mass needed for various purposes, Lee, promptly committed it, and that was that.

As to the detailed method of using the forces, troops have fixed the enemy, and will again, not by attack, but by mere threat; sometimes they have done the job by a defense in place; at other times, they have done it even by retreat. A versatile commander is bound to no one procedure. He not only changes from one to the other, he even uses them all in the same fight. And an equal variety is true of the methods of the flanking effort.

From the distorted idea of one main attack and one secondary, there has risen the equally distorted notion of building up always at one place an enormous concentration of power. We forget that overconcentration in one place may mean weakness in another; but a competent enemy, especially if he has made a study of our tactical habits, will not forget. Of the happy-phrase makers who tell us that war is merely a matter of bringing elements of superiority to bear against elements of weakness, we have a right to ask, "How much superiority?" and "Which weakness?" Since overconcentration here means undue dispersion there, it is only when the *right* mass is employed in the *right* place at the *right* time that the correct concentration and the correct dispersion, at the same spot, merge into identity; then, and only then, we get the correct apportionment of intensity of combat power. Our Navy, recognizing this fact, applies a penalty, in its games, for overconcentration of power.

General Bliss remarked in the preface to *Warfare*<sup>2</sup> (the book should be read, by all means, if only to read the preface), "the effectiveness of a machine depends upon the concentration of just the proper amount of energy at the point where work is to be done. In war . . . there is a similar given power of attack which will overcome the resistance." The watchword, then, is not "concentration" or "superiority," but *adequacy*: adequacy of mass to do the job under the existing conditions; then, if there is something left over, so much the better—pile it on in accordance with the priority of doubt.

The term which Clausewitz' translators popularized in the English military vocabulary as "economy of force" meant, in reality, *apportionment* of force,<sup>3</sup> and the adequate apportioning of power according to prevailing conditions is the whole answer to problems in the use of mass.

Now, as it happens, strength cannot always be used against weakness. For various reasons, it is often necessary to attack strength.<sup>4</sup> If for no other reason than to hold hostile strength in place, our own strength may have to be applied initially in holding (Alexander's method, as we have seen), rather than in maneuvering to strike the vitals. The doctrine of strength against weakness is a fine doctrine, re-discovered at great cost in the World War; but it is no more invariable than any other method. Similarly, the doctrine of pouring into the main theater (area, locality, what you will) all the force which can be

<sup>2</sup>By Spaulding, Nickerson, and Wright.

<sup>3</sup>See "Mobility and the Cavalry Leader," already cited.

<sup>1</sup>See "Mobility and the Cavalry Leader," *CAVALRY JOURNAL*, September-October, 1937.

<sup>4</sup>See "The Objective and the Cavalry Leader," *CAVALRY JOURNAL*, November-December, 1937.

supplied, is at times necessarily at variance with the doctrine of attacking weakness. The main theater is, naturally, the theater, in plain English, where the main forces are employed. The main attack occurs there—or the main defense. But the critical attack or defense, the attack or defense which is expected to be decisive, to work ruin or stave it off, may be made by relatively small forces, and the decisive theater where the crisis is fought out may be far distant from the main forces. The British high command, during the World War, squabbled over this simple matter like children; and yet, as Admiral Richmond shows, it was the method whereby their forebears built the British Empire.

One of the worst squabbles of this sort was over the Dardanelles. Here the Allies (v. the official histories, especially for the German view) muffed one of their best opportunities. While London seethed with argument over strategical dogmas, British troops arrived at the Dardanelles always just too late to do the job; until at last, when adequate mass arrived just in time for the last attempt, it failed because of the faulty composition of the reinforcements—they were inexperienced, and their higher commanders were that, and worse.

Concentration of power often depends no less on type than on amount. The history of the Western Front in the World War is the story of trying to do right things, as well as wrong, with the wrong means. The tank, produced earlier and used properly, could have been the answer; in the end, in fact, it was. But the Germans demonstrated—though too late—that the job could have been done without the tank. Had they in 1917, after the French debacle, been ready to launch a great offensive with the technique of 1918, their infantry could have gone through. It was not the means that were lacking; it was the appreciation of the methods necessary to give the means the special character needed for the task.

Forester, in his novel *The General*, describes a conference at a British corps headquarters in Flanders, with a group of general officers trying to fathom why their attacks failed despite vast expenditure of power. It was, he says, like the debate of a group of savages, trying to extract a screw from a plank, and thinking, because they knew no better, that the screw was a nail. They simply did not have a ghost of a notion that it was not merely power that was needed, but power of the right sort applied in the right way. No Army officer should fail to read that book, absorb that unforgettable picture, and carry it lifelong in his mind. In golf, basketball, football, volley ball, or what not, it is not maximum power which sends the ball by the right path to the right place at the right time: it is the right amount of power, applied in the right way.

Adults can learn much from children. Children have not lived long enough to absorb much error. The simple sanity of youth, when young boys have a fight on their hands, makes use of the powers of the intellect rather than of subconscious memory. Boys do their thinking with their brains, not with their viscera. Nothing is too new

for them to try; nothing too old, if it will work.

When two small boys have to deal with one somewhat larger, they frequently display the acme of generalship. If neither attacker is big enough to grasp and hold the enemy, then one dances in his front, now threatening, now retiring, while the other goes around the flank. If the one can hold while the other moves, well and good—but even then, to avoid bruises for the holder, they may not elect to use the method. But if the enemy is too nimble to be fixed (more or less) in place by agility as much as force, then there is nothing for it but to pin him till the flanker gets in.

When the flanker gets there, he may hold while the original "holder" does the hitting. Or, the flanker may hit. Or, the flanker may dispose himself promptly in a suitable position (on hands and knees) on critical terrain (just behind the defender's knees), while the frontal attack propels the enemy backward over the hurdle.

Of course, there are other variations, and all—and more—are seen in war. Each is fine in its own time and place, and each may otherwise be ruinous.

Children, being relatively close to Nature, the great Realist, are realists themselves. They have little use for rules except the rule of taking things for what they really are. Many young boys are fine generals, but they lose the knack as they grow up. They learn too much which isn't true. The problem of strategical and tactical leadership is to grow up without growing old.

Providence ordained that there should be a place for cavalry even on the Western Front during the World War, but that no European—least of all the cavalymen—should know how to use it. Failure having followed failure, even the Germans gave up the idea—and then were unable to exploit success in their 1918 attacks, because they did not have cavalry. The most expert user of cavalry is supposed to be the cavalymen; if he lacks the power of adaptation to new conditions, who else is to tell us how to use his arm?

During our Civil War the great Union cavalry leaders came from the arms. But Sheridan and Wilson were so young that they were not yet really poured into any mould, infantry or otherwise. They were still hardy little boys, looking at war with fresh eyes and open minds, too youthful to be bound by the past, quick to learn by their errors, and impressed only by the nature of men and things as they found them. Older men of maturer judgment can do better—if they are young enough in body, and really young in mind.

It is the boast of our cavalymen that they never grow old. They merely dry up and, when the time comes, blow away like the dust of the Great Plains where their predecessors chased our wayward Red brother. Literalists, of course, say that this is just a dream, like other cavalry dreams. No doubt; yet it is a good dream. Some day, like the Germans of 1918, we will need our cavalry, need it desperately. It will be there in proper strength, adapted to the purpose, if our cavalymen make this dream come true.



# Crazy Business

By PETER B. KYNE



## PART III

I will always maintain that my colonel, even if he was a military innocent, was the champion of the world in the matter of getting things done, once the notion came to him that it would be a good thing to do them. We were a light field artillery regiment without any light field artillery material to train on, so very shortly after taking over command he plastered our area with the running gear of old farm wagons to simulate field pieces. The cannoners could prance around these wagons and get an idea of what prancing around a gun was like, and the officers drew experience in giving commands. After a few days of this, however, I think the colonel got the notion that wagons were undignified, so he went on the prowl for condemned and obsolete field pieces—and lo, the arsenal at Benicia yielded up D battery of the 6th field artillery as it used to be in a bygone day. The guns were 3.2's and I got a lump in my throat as I looked at the stenciled identification marks on their ammunition chests. I had seen them in the ruckus at Zapote river in Luzon; they had been before the gates of Peking, and I think were known then as Reilly's battery.

The old man borrowed about sixty head of horses from a rancher friend who delivered them to us; we had the old artillery harness; brushes and sundry stable equipment appeared and we started training with horses, guns and caissons.

It is my impression that we were too noble to charge Uncle Sam for forage for horses not his own, and it is my belief that even if we had the bill would not have been honored because not properly authorized! Yes, I think we subsisted the horses from a regimental fund; it seems to me I sent in a check for \$100.00 in response to a clarification yip for help.

I was pretty happy at being able to train my men on real guns and horses, and I happen to know something about horses, for a knowledge of them and a love for them runs in the Kyne blood like a wooden leg. I was grooming horses when I was eight and breaking them at ten; I wasn't a half bad farrier; I knew how to care for a horse and treat simple diseases, cuts, scalds and sores. In fact, this yearning for the society of horses eventually with me, reached the ultimate point in idiocy—a small racing stable and a couple of good brood mares! When pain and anguish wring my brow I generally can get rid of it by walking down into a meadow and fraternizing with some weanling thoroughbreds.

We were beginning to look like a regiment now; the soft civilian fat was melting off the men and their clothing

hung in festoons; later, when they commenced to harden they bulged and had to have a new issue because they had outgrown the old.

About this time trumpets appeared from nowhere, we appointed trumpeters and the colonel made sergeant bugler a lad who used to play the silver cornet in a country town band. I instructed my musicians to pay no attention to him, because I didn't fancy his bugling. He bugled by note, whereas I bugled the way old Denny Hayes, sergeant bugler of the 14th infantry, used to bugle in the days of my halcyon youth. Denny tossed in grace notes and they were beautiful. Our sergeant bugler called upon me to inform me respectfully that my bugling ideas were antiquated . . . well, I didn't have time to ride herd on my buglers so in the end this infernal fellow triumphed over me.

We had been in the service about six weeks when I decided we should have a band. The colonel hadn't thought about this. He figured we would very presently head for the field of glory and of what use was a band on the battlefield? I enlightened him on the subject of bands so he said: "Very well, if you want a band, recruit it and organize it yourself. I'll have nothing to do with it." I accepted the dare, although had I known what a job I was so blithely assuming I would have gone over the hill that night!

My plan for organizing our regimental band was absurdly simple. First catch the musicians. To that end I picked a smart young sergeant, gave him a couple of hundred dollars and sent him up to San Francisco to hire an office and insert advertisements in the local newspapers and any musical journals he might locate. He was to sell the idea to twenty-eight musicians and I gave him a list of the table of organization of an army band which I had gotten from a bandmaster at the Presidio of San Francisco. Something told me I should send Snooper on this job, but I couldn't spare him from his regular duties. My band recruiting sergeant was to extract promises from his victims to enlist in our regiment and get their addresses. When he had lined up enough for a mess he was to notify me and I would hire a bus, bring them down to camp and enlist them.

Right here I want to go on record as stating that if there is a dirty outfit in the service of our country it is the Marine Corps. Some filthy leatherneck read my ads, located my recruiting office and set a watch upon it . . . one day my sergeant telephoned down frantically for me to come up immediately, that he had nineteen bandsmen lined up but the silver-tongued Marines were trying to

steal them away from him. I fled up to town but by the time I got there the dirty marines had marched off with my nineteen bandmen! Imagine my indignation when I discovered I had been putting up expense money for the Marines! I almost hate them still! However, a little investigation adduced the fact that the skunks now had a complete band, so it was reasonable to assume they would not raid me again; and I instructed the sergeant to continue the motion, at the same time advancing him more money for office expense, grub and hotel bill.

When he had twenty-seven signed up I brought them down and enlisted them. It was pretty terrible on the sergeant hanging around to see if he'd get a few physical rejects, but I had taken the precaution to see to it that my own battalion surgeon examined them—and I warned him that cancer and tuberculosis (active) were the sole excuses for rejection.

When the job was done, all we lacked was a clarinet player and twenty-eight assorted instruments with which to produce music. I ran up to the quartermaster's office at Fort Mason, but he hadn't any and I talked to Ordinance and they hadn't any and the prospects of getting any were very nebulous, indeed, until I induced one of our captains, who was a regent of Leland Stanford Junior University twenty miles down the road, to borrow the university band's instruments and band leader, it being the summer semester and the instruments and the leader being off duty. So he performed and one night, by Jerusalem crickets, we had music with our guardmount!

We also had dogs. Hundreds of them. Every soldier had one and they all howled when the band played. We had a bear cub, too, and a pet coyote and a shoat, and they joined in to such an extent that the colonel issued an order banishing them all. But for noise, not because they were a menace to our sanitation. Old Doc didn't recommend their exile.

However, there was a bug in my musical amber. I lacked a clarinet, and though I spent money like a drunken sailor advertising for one, none offered. I was beginning to think all the clarinet players in California had been enlisted, when First Sergeant Snooper turned round on his nail keg one day and said:

"If the captain can spare me for three days I'll go forth and come home with a clarinet-playing fool."

Such devotion! Such loyalty! I sent him away in my car with Private Marchand driving. On Monday morning he re-appeared with a dark dumb looking boy about nineteen years old, rushed him down to our medico and had him in a uniform and assigned to Headquarters Company, which owned the band within the hour.

That night the newcomer did his stuff and he was grand. I said to Snooper. "Where DID you pick up that boy? He looks rather dull to me, but he certainly can play the clarinet."

"That's all he can do," Snoper replied, with his small sardonic smile, "but he can do that well, because he loves to do it. I got him out of a Home For The Feeble Minded, where I was assistant superintendent prior to my

enlistment." He was silent a moment. "I stole him," he added. "I had to. And remember, I promised the captain a clarinet-playing fool."

Later, when we went to Camp Kearny, all our regiment, including the officers, had to go before a psychopathic board. I had an idea the wastage in officers would be terrific, but somehow they all got by. I sent Snooper over to the base hospital with the battery when the enlisted men were to be examined, while I took a hack at my novel. Suddenly I leaped up as if bee stung. My God! That wretched psychopathic board would take my clarinet-playing fool away from me! I had forgotten to make a battle plan. Leaping into my car I fled to the base hospital and on the road met Snooper marching back with the outfit.

"Did they get our clarinet-playing fool, sergeant?" I asked.

"No, sir. He was there, with Headquarters company, waiting to be called, but I got him off to one side and told him to beat it home or I'd murder him. Then I had one of our smart lads double for him."

You see, that band didn't belong to me, but I am proud to say it always considered itself my property because I bought music for it—orchestrated, and that isn't cheap. When the division commander appointed me division bally-hoos I tried to take the band out with me in a truck all over San Diego county, Red Cross speaking, Liberty Bonding and Food Conserving. In any town where the Second Liberty Loan bogged down I appeared and bogged it up again, with my forked tongue and my band and a good quartet. And I always organized a dance and we stopped over night in the local hotel at my expense. I knew all the little wineries in that county and I took the band in and, in violation of the stupid war-time prohibition, I gave them to drink. Once, far back in the mountains, we heard of two old ladies, twins, about seventy-five years old. They wanted so to get down to Camp Kearny to see the soldiers and listen to the military bands play, but one had gotten down with a misery in her back and the other had to stay home and nurse her. When the band-master heard of this he begged me to drive five miles up a canon from the main highway and do the needful. We formed up in the old ladies' yard and let her go; the wood-winds could do a grand imitation of bag-pipes or an organ and they came to the old lady's bedchamber and did their stuff. Grand fellows. In France they marched nine miles one night in a pouring rain to stand under a window of a house in the village place where I was the guest of honor at a birthday dinner. Think of a government that will allow a band five dollars a month for new music! Well, my band never had to play on such short musical rations!

About this time the colonel remembered he had a great number of physically unfit enlisted men in his outfit, so he started the military machine to get rid of them only to discover that fate had tossed a handful of emery dust in his bearings.

When enlisting these cripples in the National Guard

Old Doc had certified, over his signature, that they were sound of wind and limb. And now, when the colonel asked him to certify them again over his signature, as human wrecks, Old Doc, for the first time, found himself the proprietor of a solemn thought. He was up against a proper stinker. He shrank from stultifying himself and when he and the colonel looked up the modus operandi for slipping an enlisted man an S.C.D., they discovered somebody else had made the ground rules! It appeared Western Department Headquarters would have to issue the order to discharge these men on surgeon's certificate of disability. And if asked to order the discharge of about a hundred men from our outfit it was conceivable that General Liggett's successor or his Chief of Staff might rise up and say: "How come?" They might even investigate and discover Doc had certified them sound and then had certified them unsound, and it would be just like a general to get nasty about a thing like that.

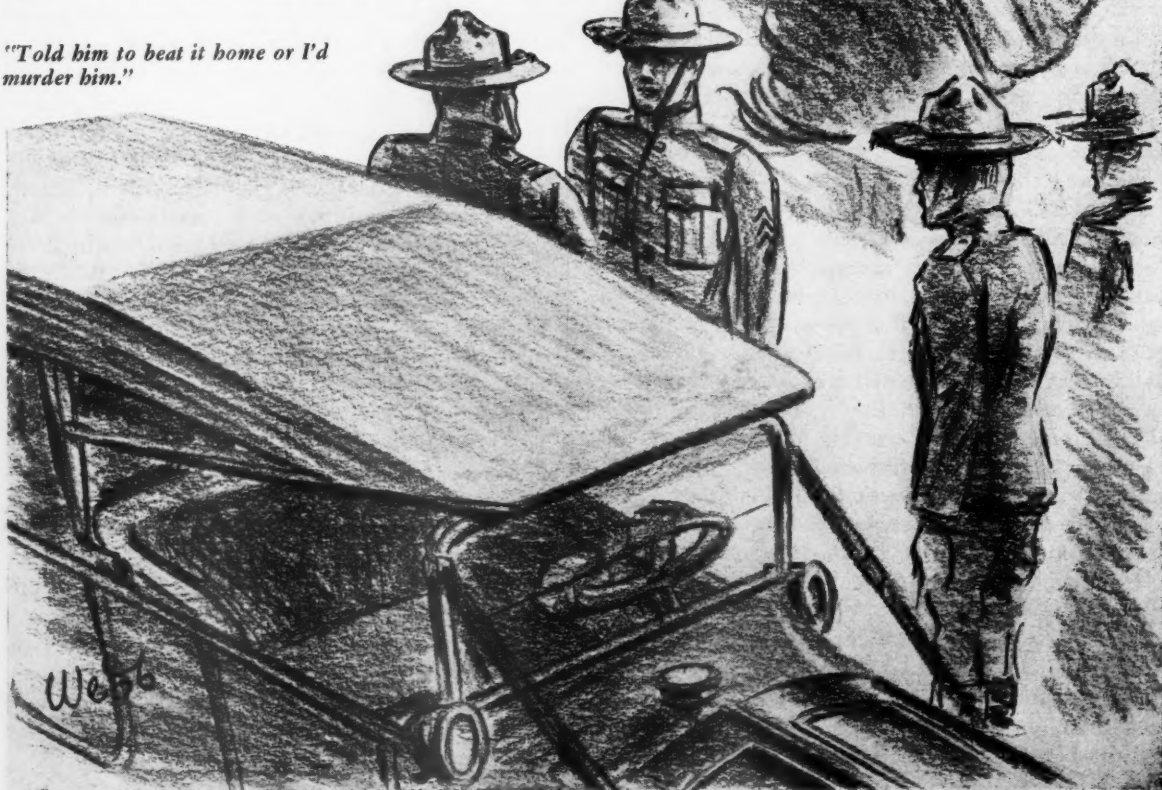
Yes, it was conceivable that Doc might be discovered and a doubt so grave might be cast upon his ability as a medical officer that he might be ordered before a benzine board.

The situation was, to say the least, binding. Ordinarily our old man would wallow in trouble with the joyous abandon of a tom-cat in a bed of catnip, albeit on other occasions he could display, in the avoidance of trouble, the super-intelligence and caution of a latrine rat. I think he was cruelly torn between his love and duty, for nothing could afford him greater pleasure than being kind to man and beast—and he was, by this time, so

proud of his regiment and loved it so that his great heart automatically included our misfits in his affections, even while his pride in the outfit and his loyalty to it warned him that he could never face his Maker on the battlefields of France until he had purged his command of these undesirables.

However, as the rabbi remarked to the Jew boy, there is a destiny which shapes our ends, rough hew them as we may. About the time the reasons of doc and the

*"Told him to beat it home or I'd murder him."*



colonel were practically tottering on their respective thrones, God, who marks the sparrow's fall, sent up a recent graduate from the Officers' Reserve Training School at Fort McKinley, P. I. This individual was of the type that causes my friend, Colonel Sandy McNab, infantry, retired, to complain after the third highball: "The army ain't what it used to be—but then it never was!"

Battalion Sergeant Major August A. Krantz, 4th Field Artillery (I give his real name, for he died a long time ago and he wouldn't mind anyhow), was a tall thin person of excellent Swedish family and the eye of command. Apparently he lived with and for The Regulations; but actually he was fit for treason, stratagems and spoils. In his youth he had been a second lieutenant in the King of Sweden's Household Regiment; he had been an officer in the Greek army in a revolution in the Island of Crete, he had been an officer in the war between the Turks and Greeks and had been a spy among the Turks. Then a great sorrow came upon him. He lost his wife and children in a hotel fire and wanted to die. Too brave to commit suicide, he enlisted for the only active service then going on and, with twenty men, had put one general engagement streamer on the standard of the Sixteenth Infantry in combat with a thousand Filipinos. He was the sort that never hesitates to pay a respectful and friendly duty call upon any general who, as a company officer, has served with him. So, what more natural, then that, after disembarking from the transport and registering at a hotel in San Francisco, he should drop in at Western Department Headquarters to salute any friends he might find there?

In an outer office one Captain Ireland sat behind a desk, and to Ireland the arrival of Old Soldier Krantz was the answer to a prayer. "What," he demanded of Krantz, "are you doing here?"

Krantz explained he was a candidate for a captaincy in the National Army and was home on a four-month's furlough, which had started that morning upon his arrival in San Francisco, where he purposed enjoying himself with those worldly things old soldiers set their hearts upon.

Within ten minutes Captain Ireland had talked the wretched Krantz into abandoning his furlough, going down to Tanforan Race Course, taking us by the hand and leading us in the path we should tread.

Krantz prowled around among us all afternoon, making a quiet little reconnaissance before presenting himself before our colonel, who was delighted to meet him and promptly hired him, at one hundred dollars a month, to organize the adjutant's office, issue a training schedule, deliver lectures to the officers and supervise the training of the men. The colonel, however, does not know how close he came to losing Krantz after the latter had accepted the job. *He invited Krantz to dinner at the officers' mess!* Krantz dodged that one and while fleeing from the spot ran into me and saw, by my ribbons, that here, at least was one who had seen some real soldiering. He snapped into it and begged for an interview. It appeared he

wanted to know all about the colonel. He could see the colonel was a charming gentleman but, in a military way, Krantz distrusted him. Realizing that God had stretched another hand out to us, I sold Krantz on the colonel and the next morning the old warrior got on the job.

The colonel had no automobile and I was the only officer who would loan him one. About three days after he took us over Krantz begged the loan of my car and Private Marchand for the day; he said he had urgent business at Western Department headquarters. Of course I never did know what happened up there, but of this I am morally certain. Krantz made some Big Medicine; we had but one medical officer with us at the time and Krantz wanted another and nothing would do him but a major. So they gave him a major just commissioned in the Medical Reserve Corps and the next day the major arrived and superseded Old Doc.

Promptly Krantz called upon me and stated that if, unfortunately, in the heat of hurried recruiting, I had become the proprietor of some enlisted men I suspected would not stand up to hard field service or whom I feared I would never learn to love, to give him their names and he would skid them back into civil life for me in jig time. So I gave him the list and next day the condemned men had to report to the new major doctor who found them all to be simply terrible and recommended their discharge for physical disability.

Krantz gathered up all these physical disability certificates and brought over to the bereaved battery commanders discharge blanks and final statement blanks and bade us fill them out. Of course we had to have official and competent authority for discharging these men, so Krantz supplied it. Nobody ever leaned on that old reprobate and discovered they were leaning on a reed! He wrote out the line on my desk: "By reason of Paragraph 8, General Order No. 874, Headquarters Western Department, U.S. Army." What a man!

Of course Western Headquarters had never issued any such order, but Krantz knew no paymaster would ever question the authenticity of those discharges. So we handed our men the documents, shook hands with them, thanked them kindly for their hearty coöperation and wished them the best of luck in civil life. I felt like a dog. All my lads wept, but at leaving a life they had learned, in a month, to love, and not because they remotely suspected they had served as pinch-hitters. As for the expense of the experiment to Uncle Sam—pheu! and more pheui! Hadn't we delivered Uncle Sam a regiment without one cent of cost to him? Wasn't Sam still miles ahead of the game?

The hell with him!

Very shortly after having operated so innocently as a cat's paw to pull out of the fire the chestnuts tossed into it by the colonel and Old Doc, the medical major mysteriously disappeared, and Old Doc appeared in public again and commenced to strut his stuff. Remembering his run-in with me on the subject of those latrines, he commenced an undue snooping around my area, seeking things un-

sanitary and I commenced receiving memoranda from the colonel, all of which I filed and disregarded. Everything I had authority over was spotless; I knew my outfit and my area to be the cleanest one in camp. If I hadn't seen to that Snooper would have.

I well recall a day in Camp Kearny when my mess sergeant came over to report that Old Doc had ordered him to move our ice box, which was as big as a small Los Angeles bungalow. I said: "Do not obey him you're a soldier and can take orders only from a soldier; that if you obeyed an order from him your captain would bust you flatter than soup on a plate. Tell him any orders from him must come through me. And if you ever move that ice box, you're a gone fawn."

Of course Doc came storming in next morning. Now, I had (at my own expense, as usual) had the dirt floor of my kitchen concreted so we could hose it out frequently and keep it sanitary, and I had the ice box up on blocks so we could hose under it. I said to Old Doc: "Why do you want my ice box moved?" He said that dirt accumulated under it where it was. I said: "Will not the dirt accumulate under it at any spot to which you have ordered it removed?"

Old Doc gasped. He hadn't thought of that! "And know you, doc," I reminded him, "That no drug store medico ever found or ever will find dirt anywhere in my kitchen, because it's hosed out half a dozen times a day. So the ice box remains where it is and if I catch you snooping around my kitchen again I'll put over a barrage of garbage on you."

The next day the colonel had me in and accused me of showing disrespect to his chief surgeon and assured me that I had a very arrogant and belligerent manner which, he greatly feared, would yet lead me to a general court-martial, unless I promptly got a grip on myself.

About this time I dropped about three hundred files in caste. Coming into our mess hall one day I found my place at the senior officers' table occupied by a guest of the colonel's, so I went down to the table occupied by the second lieutenants and said aloud: "I'll sit here among the lowly and the outcast."

I did this because I had discovered that no captain was speaking to a second lieutenant except in the line of duty. These unfortunate lads were supposed to be seen and not heard—just one jump ahead of a sergeant. Consequently the despised rabble received me with a cheer; they were grateful for a bit of that democracy to preserve which the young pups were so eager to lay down their lives. My action was severely criticized as only another evidence of my yearning for popularity, even if obtained by dubious means, and one of the colonel's favorites undertook to lecture me on the error of my ways. Of course I tore him apart so he started the report that I had absolutely no discipline in my battery, that my men got away with murder. Strangely, this report was accepted and believed!

I realized something had to be done about me. We had no majors as yet and the majors would have to be made from the captains and if I should be made a major it

would be pretty terrible. Unfortunately, they didn't know what I knew—i.e., that a major never has any fun and that there are only three joyous jobs in the army, to-wit: first sergeant, company commander and colonel. I would not have left my men for a gold leaf and fifty bucks a month extra for any consideration, particularly after a delegation from my battery called upon me and begged me not to. The spokesman pointed out to me that if I became a major they might get any one of my first lieutenants as captain and they figured they hadn't done anything to deserve that! I agreed with them!

Finally we moved down to Camp Kearny where a flock of new critics awaited me. The day following our arrival there our officer personnel was paraded in the lee of a mess hall, in front of which stood a battery of four three-inch field artillery pieces. A lieutenant-colonel of another regiment of the brigade appeared and made a speech. It appeared he was the Chief of the Brigade School of Fire, and I saw he was an ex-soldier of my day. He had gun crews present and stated he was about to have these crews put the guns into action and out again; he begged us to mark how well they did it. (These crews were from his own regiment, of course.)

I got my stop-watch on them. Thirty seconds in action and thirty seconds out of action! H-um-m-m! The orator then went on to inform us that these men had only been in the service ninety days and yet—look at them! They demonstrated the miracles it was possible to perform with the sort of recruits available now-a-days. Then he came down the line and shook hands with us all and asked us our names. When he saw my chest he said: "Ah, an old soldier of The Empire. The name, captain?"

Naturally I gave him my rather widely advertised name and he said affably: "Well, captain, what do you think of my gun crews?"

I replied, "Well, colonel, I can not enthuse over them to the extent that you do. They've been in the service ninety days and they can put a gun into action or take it out in thirty seconds. Nothing to cheer about, colonel. The United States Army record is fifteen seconds."

I was hitting him below the belt and he knew it. He grew red. He was offended. Said he stiffly. "My dear man, after your gun crews have trained on this material ninety days I'll be very much pleased with you if they can do the job in sixty seconds."

He'd poke me, would he? "Hell's fire," I replied, "if my men can not beat hell out of your crew after ten days of training I'll resign my commission and enlist as a private. I'd feel disgraced."

He blew up. "I will issue a battery to your regiment tomorrow for training and in ten days I'll be around to call your bluff," he told me and walked away.

When we were dismissed I fled to my comfort in time of stress, the invaluable and faithful First Sergeant Snooper. To Snooper I confessed what I had done. "Good," said Snooper. "We never let 'em put it on us. Let us pick our gun crews right now!"

Together we picked the finest six-footer young Irish-

Americans, as keen as mustard and a fight just the attar of roses in their snubby noses. I led them down to the vacant barns, sat them down and told them what I had done. They all agreed I had acted in a highly sportsman-like manner and were complimented at my faith in them. "It's up to you men," I charged. "If you let me down you make a boob out of a battery commander who, in his lucid moments, is trying to be decent to all and sundry."

With one voice twenty men said they would NOT let me down and for me to think no more about it.

I put the play-boy first lieutenant—the ex-football hero, in charge of the job and it was nuts to him—like the patient training of a football squad. Here was a job he could do because that was the sort of job he loved to do. And we had one hour a day to train on those guns!

The first hour we read from the book and identified the parts of the gun and ran through the various positions a few times. Then we had to abandon to another battery.

At eleven thirty when the crew came in from morning drill they ran like antelopes to the guns, now happily deserted, and put in forty-five minutes, wolfed down their mid-day meal and ran back for more gunnery. At four-thirty when recall from drill sounded they slaved again until supper. After supper they went at it again; when darkness fell they put up a candle for an aiming point and used flashlights to find the readings of ranges, deflections, sites and fuse-cuttings.

Came the fatal day when the chief of the school of fire appeared to call my bluff. I handed him the typewritten problem; I handed him my split-second stop watch and showed him how to use it; I begged him to time my brave lads—and I gave them the command of execution.

The arms of four section chiefs came up simultaneously . . . the guns were in action! My visitor looked at the watch. Sixteen seconds! Then I begged the colonel to check the firing data of the pieces. He did. No errors. Then I put the guns out of action—in sixteen seconds—and he walked away! I let him go twenty yards, then called after him. "Oh, colonel, haven't you forgotten something, sir."

He paused and looked around. "I am not aware of it," he snapped, for he was a very military man.

"My gun crews are, sir."

"Well, well, what is it?"

"Cheers," I replied.

He walked away and I permitted the gallant gun crews a chuckle for I figured they had earned it!

But I had made myself an enemy and strangely he was foolish enough to come back for more. A few months later he met me one day, assured me my outfit was an undisciplined mob and ordered me to have it present in my mess hall that night at eight o'clock so he could lecture to it on discipline. I assured him I would be pleased to coöperate but—had he bothered to show my colonel the courtesy of asking the later's permission to assume a job that was, rightfully, my commanding officer's? He said that wasn't necessary; that he was the chief of the school

of fire and he warned me against the vice of giving back chat to my superior officers.

Of course I went to Snooper, who demanded fiercely "Is the captain going to permit this outrage, this insult on the best disciplined, happiest outfit in this brigade? By God, I take this personally."

"There will be no lecture, sergeant," I assured him, "and I leave to you the details of preventing it. The details are nebulous in my mind, but I suggest a total lack of discipline because I do not wish the excellent man to be disappointed. Somebody has been talking to him, I fear, and he believes that which he is told. Insult him gently and casually for me, Snooper, but mark you—the insult must be so delivered that no comeback will be possible."

"Yes, sir," said Snooper.

At eight o'clock when Nemesis came into my mess hall my battery was sitting quietly at the tables, but the electric lights all along the wall had been screwed out and the battery sat in almost total darkness, save for a faint radiance from a shaded 220 candle power lamp that hung by a cord over a hastily constructed platform to which I unctuously led the speaker of the evening. The faces of the men showed faintly white in the first few rows as I introduced the speaker of the evening in a few burning sarcastic lines, but—respectful. Nothing I could be impeached for. Then I waved him toward the rostrum.

He mounted it and opened his mouth—and instantly some buck made with his mouth a low sound that was very loud! Thereupon a detail told off by Snooper for tittering promptly tittered, and the speaker cried: "Tenshun." A scattering of Bronx cheers then greeted him.

When our visitor, face aflame, turned to me and ordered me to bring my outfit to attention, I waved a deprecating hand. "I'm so sorry, colonel," I replied, "but my command is, as the colonel suspected, an undisciplined mob and completely out of hand. Moreover, you have superseded me and my colonel in command."

Our volunteer speaker on the gentle art of disciplining recent civilians realized that if he persisted in his enterprise he would get what is colloquially designated as the works, so, to save his dignity, he stalked out of the mess hall. The situation never really got out of hand. Just little Bronx cheers and titters and one devil cried in a feminine voice: "I want to go home!" I commanded attention and a dark blue silence settled over the hall as His Nibs stalked forth into the night.

As Snooper unscrewed the 200 C. P. light he remarked: "The colonel is a bit bald. If he had stayed under this spot light a minute he would have been burned up worse than he was. Does the captain suppose he'll make an issue of this outrage?"

"He will not," I assured Snooper. "It was his ego which led him into this mess and it will be his ego which will keep him from diving in deeper."

"He keeps a skin book," Snooper warned me. "I've seen him writing in it. A Brigade School of Fire order commands battery commanders to be with their gun crews

at gun drill, and the captain has, unfortunately, been absent every time the colonel drops around to see if this order is being obeyed."

Snooper had a long nose for trouble and I was not surprised when the following day the brigade commander sent for me and read me two pages from the skin book, and all about myself! Then, like the gentlemen he was, he said: "I'm sure this isn't willful disobedience, but if it is something heavy is going to drop on you, because you know better."

I replied: "Drop it on my colonel or his adjutant. I am no sooner with my battery at gun drill than an orderly from regimental headquarters appears with an order for me to attend upon the colonel or the adjutant. I obey—and the instant I am gone your chief of the school of fire appears and demands of my executive officer: 'Where is Captain Kyne?' The executive officers know where I am and why but he disapproves of me, so he replies: 'I do not know sir.' And down I go in the skin book."

"What is this business so important you have to be jerked off drill?" he queried.

"Well, sir, this morning it was a request from the colonel for me to be noble, for the honor of the regiment, and decline to press charges against Private Pitts. Our football team plays the 145th field artillery on Saturday and Pitts made football history in college. Without him

we may not win. I declined the request, so the colonel filed my charges in his waste basket and took Pitts out of chancery anyhow."

"But can not these matters be discussed at officers' call?" the brigadier demanded.

"The two gentlemen in question, sir," I replied, "have always been accustomed to summoning subordinates to attend upon them. As for officers' call—well, you are much too optimistic, general. It has never been blown in my regiment and I am the only person in the regiment who can blow it or would recognize it if somebody else blew it."

"You're free," said the general, and tore two pages out of the skin book. "But there'll be officers' call in your regiment tomorrow."

So there was—and I was far afield with my battery and didn't hear it, and when I got back for luncheon there was an order from the old man commanding me to explain to him in writing my reason for so flagrantly disobeying officers' call!

To which I replied—in writing, in the correct military formula:

Officers' call is such a new institution in this regiment and the liability to human error such an old one, that I just naturally missed officers' call.

And there the matter rested.

*(To be continued)*

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(See Rear Cover)



# Cavalry Combat



Interest in *Cavalry Combat* and its value to the Cavalry Arm in many parts of the world are demonstrated through the reviews of the book which follow:

Review of *Cavalry Combat* in the *Militär-Wochenblatt*, Berlin, Germany, November 26, 1937, pp. 1391 and 1392. (Translated by Sergeant Fred W. Merten, DEML.)

*Cavalry Combat* is the title of a book prepared by The Cavalry School, U. S. Army; this work of 507 pages deals with cavalry in the World War. Colonel C. Linsinger, Assistant Commandant, The Cavalry School, calls the book "a virile volume full of information, battlefield experience, and tactical instruction." In the foreword, Major General Leon B. Cromer, Chief of Cavalry, states that the World War served to prove the value of the cavalry as a combat arm. "The creation of open flanks, the antithesis of stabilization, can be acquired only by mobility, an element vital to cavalry. The present volume is a compilation of selected historical examples, properly discussed and illustrated, depicting various types of cavalry combat of both large and small units; its purpose is to furnish comprehensive proof of the soundness of the tactical principles for cavalry.\* The proper employment of cavalry rests upon those in high command, including staffs; the leadership of cavalry rests on cavalrymen."

The examples cited in this book comprise a total of 82 narratives with 106 map sketches, dealing with cavalry operations on all fronts of the World War.

The critical discussion which accompanies each chapter is of great interest and justifies the appreciation expressed in the *AMERICAN CAVALRY JOURNAL* (July-August): "We see cavalry in action in reconnaissance, security, attack, counterattack, pursuit, defense, filling a gap in the line and generally fulfilling its time honored missions under modern conditions. To fight war, one must know war: Here is cavalry in war at its best."

This voluminous work is a valuable textbook for officers of all grades as well as for anyone who wishes to study cavalry action during the World War. Here and there we hear the opinion expressed that the experiences of the World War are of no value to a future war. However, the fallacy of this opinion is proved by actual experiences gained in recent maneuvers as well as in the

campaigns in Spain and China. Although aerial warfare is steadily gaining in importance and a multitude of inventions and improvements aid mechanized forces in attacking other armored forces and overcoming powerful resistance, the infantry still remains the "queen of battles" and its auxiliaries, the mechanized and horsed cavalry and the artillery retain their place of importance in battle. M. VON POSECK.

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Review of *Cavalry Combat* from the *Journal of the Royal United Service Institution* (November, 1937).

In the foreword, Major-General L. B. Cromer, Chief of Cavalry, states that, since the World War, there has been a definite need by officers of all branches for a compilation of historical examples, depicting the various types of cavalry combat. . . . The result is a straightforward and objective narrative.

For British readers there can be no doubt about the value of such a study. Following the decision to mechanize the bulk of our Cavalry, the most weighty service that our senior mounted officers can render to the Army is to pass on their unique experience of the practical application of the principles of cavalry combat to their juniors who are growing up in the newly formed light tank regiments. These principles, modified to meet the changing conditions, will form a basis for the operations of the mechanized cavalry arm.

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## An Acknowledgment

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Canberra, F. C. T.

The Editor

"The United States Cavalry Journal"  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

It is desired to acknowledge receipt of *Cavalry Combat* which you have so kindly made available for inclusion in the War Memorial library. The volume makes a most welcome and valuable addition to our library and we are indebted to you for having presented it for that purpose.

Yours faithfully,

T. H. E. HEYES, for Director.



# MECHANIZED CAVALRY\*

By Major R. W. Grow, Cavalry

The November-December issue of the CAVALRY JOURNAL carried a splendid article by General Hawkins entitled: "The Composition of Army Covering Forces and the Employment of Mechanized Force in this Rôle."

My temerity in venturing to comment on the statements of such an experienced and recognized authority can be excused only by a possible misconception that many readers may have as to the composition of a so-called "Mechanized Force" and in what place, if any, it is found in our Army.

First of all, there is no tactical or administrative unit in the United States Army designated a "Mechanized Force." This passed out in 1931. The term, however, lingers and is frequently, although incorrectly, applied to mechanized cavalry units.

The term "mechanized cavalry" raises in the mind of the average reader a picture, not of cavalry, but of combat cars ("tanks" to the layman). This picture, expanded, presents a vision of cumbersome juggernauts, narrow eye-slits, creeping, bouncing, spitting aimless fire, and finally becoming entangled in the meshes of boulders, swamps, mines and antitank fire. The bewildered occupants lie hopelessly buried in iron tombs frantically hoping that someone on foot or horseback will come to the rescue.

This is not the vision that prompted the birth of Mechanized Cavalry. The fact that a "tank" became an implement of cavalry was an incident of development forced by the necessity to start somewhere. Mechanized cavalry and tanks are not synonymous, in fact their similarity is very superficial. Tanks are infantry weapons. Mechanized cavalry is an arm of the service—a "sub-arm" of that great highly mobile combat branch, Cavalry.

From its earliest conception, it was recognized that "tanks" or combat cars must initially form a part, and an important part, of mechanized cavalry. In fact, combat cars today are the backbone of mechanized cavalry but their independent employment is *never* contemplated. They invariably form but the nucleus of a balanced, tactically homogeneous whole. Cavalry must, above all things be capable of fighting unsupported by Infantry. General Hawkins has very clearly brought out this point. Therefore, mechanized cavalry must fight mounted, dismounted, or by combined action. Our attempts to meet this requirement to date have resulted in a variety of machines which, in a measure, have worked. Breeding and cross-breeding are being carried out in arsenals and shops to develop an IRON HORSE as a Cavalry mount. Such an iron horse must be fast and sure-footed, enable his

riders to fight mounted or to readily dismount and fight on foot, must have good "eyes" and a "tough skin" and be constitutionally a good "keeper" and a light "feeder." This is not a "tank" in the sense of a mechanical weapon to be propelled against a hostile position in support of other troops. It is a mechanical HORSE for cavalymen to employ on all cavalry missions. So far, we have failed to attain the ideal "iron horse" and have been forced to be content with a variety of special vehicles for special purposes. These have included combat cars, armored cars, scout cars, halftrack cars, motor mounts, etc.

The objective is a mechanized cavalry that is CAVALRY in every sense of the word, with the added advantages of speed and power beyond that of our present horse units.

General Hawkins has presented a correct and forceful picture of the limitations of *tank* units organized into a "mechanized force." I do not believe that it is a true picture of mechanized cavalry even in its present infant stage. Certainly his portrayal of a "mechanized force" is not what we should look for in the mechanized cavalry of tomorrow. The Cavalry Arm is faced with its most difficult problem, namely: the breeding of a machine horse that can extend the scope and more effectively accomplish the missions of the Arm. Limitations that today appear effective barriers to the cross-country operation of machines should be set up rather as objectives to spur on our inventive genius.

I fully concur with General Hawkins that today a "mechanized force" (consisting largely of tanks) cannot, independently, perform the rôle of a covering force. This is a recognized cavalry rôle (Thank you, General Hawkins, for emphasizing that Cavalry has even more important rôles), which, I believe, our mechanized cavalry can perform independently; however, let me hasten to add, not as well today as horse cavalry. But it IS cavalry. It can fight mounted or dismounted. Its too highly specialized elements may not be properly balanced, their relative mobility (or lack of mobility) may not result in smooth teamwork, but the germ is there. Ab initio, the self-contained tactical team, capable of independent employment, has been envisioned. Like horse cavalry, mechanized cavalry must be independent of roads. Every effort is being directed toward developing this essential cavalry characteristic. It is far from satisfactory, on the other hand, our present mechanized cavalry can hardly be called road bound. More and more we find mechanized cavalry employing dismounted action, utilizing its iron horses for rapid maneuver on the battlefield and presenting a constant threat of mounted action (battlefields sans bullets as far as our experience is concerned). Versatility in

\*Editor's NOTE: This article was submitted to the CAVALRY JOURNAL as a letter to the Editor. The thought is considered so timely as to warrant its publication under a separate heading.

employment is receiving more recognition. We have long passed the era of charging tanks or iron pill boxes as the normal mode of mechanized cavalry warfare—a conception held by some from World War tank days. Scouting and patrolling, outposts, security detachments demand soldiers with their feet on the ground. Mechanized cavalry has always recognized this. Possibly the proportions have been improper, certainly the means of transportation has not been ideal, but the fact remains that mechanized cavalry can, has, and does carry out cavalry missions including the covering rôle, independently.

*It is equally true that Cavalry, as a whole, is more effective when horse and mechanized units are employed in coöperation than when either is employed alone.* The value of such coöperation is brought out by General Hawkins, although he does not credit his "mechanized force" with the capabilities that I believe our mechanized cavalry justifies. *Proper teamwork between horse and mechanized cavalry will constitute the most important problem confronting our senior cavalry commanders for years to come.* As the infant mechanized cavalry acquires more ability in independent rôles, the possibilities for effective

cavalry employment far beyond the scope of our present vision may be looked for.

In the meantime, we should recognize that:  
There is NO "Mechanized Force."

Mechanized Cavalry, a development in its infancy, is designed to be capable of independent employment on cavalry missions.

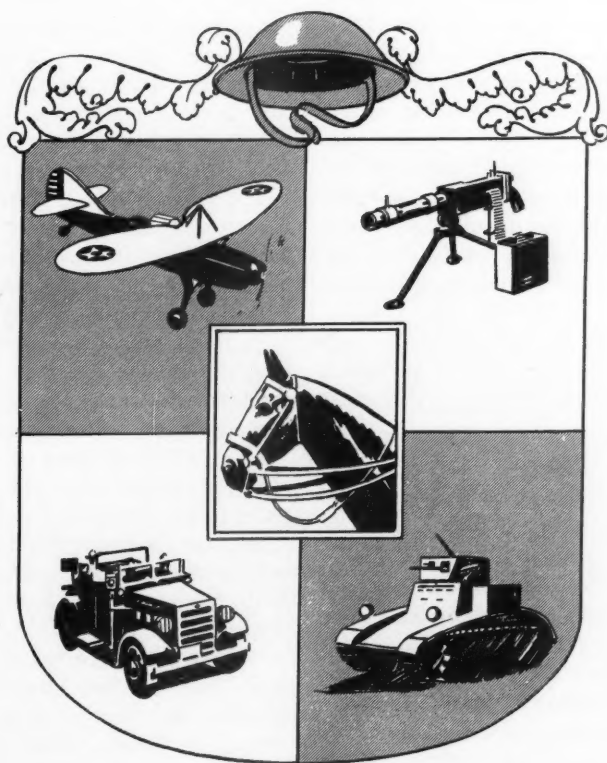
Present day mechanized cavalry is struggling with its immature means to become, not tanks, not "mechanized forces," but true CAVALRY.

The limitations of present-day equipment constitute objectives for future development.

Cavalry has accepted mechanization; Cavalry likes it; and as far as Cavalry is concerned, mechanization is here to stay and to be fostered in every way by which it can add to the mobility and fighting power of our arm.

In our Cavalry we do not want a "mechanized force" of tanks in the European sense.

WE DO WANT A MECHANIZED CAVALRY THAT IS CAVALRY IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD.



THERE IS ALWAYS a risk in a cavalry attack, because it is difficult to say exactly what hostile force may be suddenly found opposed to it, and once launched there is no going back without disaster.—GENERAL H. DE LA POER GOUGH.

# Random Impressions at Fort Knox

By COLONEL CLARENCE LININGER, Cavalry, Assistant Commandant, The Cavalry School

Close relationship between the Cavalry School at Fort Riley and the mechanized cavalry at Fort Knox began in 1934 when the 1st Cavalry marched from Fort Knox to Fort Riley and participated in joint exercises and maneuvers with horse cavalry. The lessons taught by those maneuvers still influence cavalry teachings.

Close contact was renewed when some sixty of the command, staff, faculty and students visited Fort Knox in May 1937. This visit was such a success that it was immediately planned to have the classes annually see the mechanized troops either at Fort Knox or Fort Riley.

It costs heavily to move a mechanized cavalry brigade or regiment seven hundred miles. Not only is it necessary to plan for gas, oil, spare parts, camp sites and minor repairs, but there is the greater item of general depreciation connected with a long road march. Travel by rail would probably be less expensive but funds for such a purpose must get into the budget estimate several years in advance.

In the fall of 1937 funds were lacking for a trip by train for the Cavalry School officers, but the Commandant, The Command and General Staff School, loaned ten comfortable reconnaissance cars and a pick up truck, and adding these to some motor vehicles pertaining to Fort Riley, it was possible to send forty-seven student officers and instructors to Fort Knox by motor. The War Department ordered the journey as a troop movement.

Leaving Fort Riley on a Saturday late in October, the convoy made Jefferson Barracks the first day, 400 miles, and all were comfortably put up in the 6th Infantry barracks. Journey's end was reached the middle of the next afternoon.

Then followed five days of demonstrations and exercises, carefully prepared and skilfully done. Fort Knox is frequently on exhibition and is developing a technique of showmanship.

## VEHICULAR SHOW

Horse cavalrymen are accustomed to horse shows in which performance, appearance, appointments, manners, way of going, handiness, obedience, conformation or other qualities are considered. On Monday morning there was a vehicular show in which General Appearance, Completeness and Condition, and Preventive Maintenance were on the score sheet. A keen but friendly competition was evident and one would hesitate to estimate the number of hours spent in preparation. The judges were hard taxed to find anything wrong. It was a pleasure to see vehicles so immaculately turned out. A standard was set both for brigade shows and for other similar events.

## NIGHT MARCH

One night there was a march, the entire 7th Cavalry Brigade (Mechanized) starting west, then swinging south

for awhile, and thence back to the reservation. Due to the hazards of civilian traffic, it was necessary to use lights and the seemingly endless succession of them was very impressive as the column wound its way over and around the Kentucky hills. The rate of march was not fast as one compares it to speed attained by a single vehicle but a marching rate of 25 M.P.H., or an average rate of 20 M.P.H., continued hour after hour from first starlight to break of dawn, puts the miles behind. A solid column of motors, some on wheels and some on half tracks, some light and some heavy, each with its own characteristics, requiring twenty minutes to pass a given point offers a vastly different problem from the single passenger car. To stand beside the road and watch this column pass is an experience that lingers in one's memory. There is an impression of power, of resistless might, of cataclysm when the objective is reached that is stirring to one's imagination. Each vehicle may be an inanimate force but within is a thinking intelligence to direct it. Intelligence combined with careful training makes each element a power and when all are combined into a coordinated whole, the capacity for decisive action is very great, indeed. The night march was not an aimless following of one vehicle behind another—nor of several hundred vehicles going down a road. There was radio to keep the head in touch with all parts behind it and feelers out in front and flanks—the armored cars and the advance guard. Change of pace, change of formation, change of plan were almost instantaneously possible. Should radio fail numerous motorcycle messengers were available almost as fast, and under certain conditions more dependable.

As night waned messages came to the brigade commander from the armored cars containing the results of their reconnaissance. The enemy had been found in position. A terse order for an attack was issued.

Time was then taken out for spectators to reach the enemy's position so as to see a mechanized attack from the enemy's viewpoint.

Soon the mechanized field artillery opened up, followed very shortly by smoke from candles to simulate the action of the mortar platoon. Ears were alert for the coming of the combat cars and had the enemy been firing the cars would not have been heard. As it was the listeners detected little and were unaware of the time, strength and direction of attack so that when the attackers burst through the smoke, wave after wave, and rolled over the position, the spectators were glad to huddle around the base of the observation tower or stand on its platforms. There is something about such an experience that stirs the soul.

## ATTACKS

In addition to the daylight attack, two other attack

demonstrations were given. *The tactics were undeniably those of cavalry.* There was the broad reaching out for information, the quick building up of a secondary attack to fix the enemy and make him disclose his strength and position, the rapid and mighty thrust against a weak or unguarded spot followed by the full force of everything remaining in the hands of the commander, whereby victory might be ensured and hostile destruction made complete. One wonders what the tactics might have been had some other branch been charged with the development of mechanization. Probably the same but how soon? These tactics naturally occur to cavalrymen trained as they are in the employment of horse cavalry having similar characteristics.

#### SHOPS

One afternoon the maintenance shops were visited. On a horse post when the veterinarian employs preventive measures he usually has to use but few curative measures and the veterinary hospital is a lonely place. Shoeing is so delegated to each troop as to be almost unnoticed. But maintenance looms large in the calculations of a commander of mechanized troops. This may be an inevitable aspect of motors. It will no doubt be less as time passes and equipment improves. The ordnance officer and the quartermaster both have their shops as one service furnishes some things and the other department others, for example combat cars by the ordnance and trucks by the quartermaster. Each has a well equipped shop and is very busy doing almost everything that can or should be done except build new vehicles. It was evident that in those shops was a vast amount of knowledge combined with skill. If it were not so, all that complicated machinery could not be kept moving. Time does not suffice either in peace or war to send equipment back to depots or arsenals for anything except an overhaul so complete that one would not consider it in post or camp. This does not argue against motorization and mechanization. It has nothing to do with anything except the need for trained personnel. The officer of horse cavalry must know his horse from the heart out in order to obtain the utmost from platoon, troop or what not and years are spent training him. The officer of mechanized cavalry must know his vehicle from the carburetor (let us say) in. Life is becoming increasingly complex for the cavalryman. No longer is he trained when he knows the horse, carbine, pistol and saber. Due to the introduction of motors into cavalry every officer of that arm must know mechanization and motorization

whether he spends the major portion of his time with horses or motors. Courses at the Cavalry School recognize this.

#### LIFE AND PROBLEMS AT FORT KNOX

Life is tense at Fort Knox. It could not be otherwise. The newest weapon of our Army is there—something newer than aviation and with less known about it. The brigade is only partially equipped and no sooner is a vehicle received than a better one has been devised. In this aviation has set the pace.

Difficult problems confront the brigade commander and his officers. What is the best equipment for mechanized cavalry? How should the troop, squadron, regiment, brigade be organized? What weapons are proper? What proportion of each type of mechanized vehicle should be used? What tactics should be taught? How should everyone from brigade commander to newest recruit be trained? How should mechanized cavalry be employed in cooperation with other arms? What are the most profitable missions for mechanized cavalry? How many mechanized cavalry regiments, brigades or divisions should we have? (A problem for higher authority but one of interest to all cavalry officers.) Is mechanization ready to be incorporated into the National Guard or Organized Reserves? (Also a problem for higher authority.)

These questions indicate why life is tense at Fort Knox—also why life is interesting. Who could fail to be interested—*knowing that mechanized cavalry as it has developed today and will continue to develop is an integral and rightful element of cavalry*, a part of cavalry as much as the five year old boy and his twenty-five year old brother are parts of the same family? Anyone with an inquiring mind, a touch of the pioneer, a willingness to plunge into the unknown should welcome duty with this force whose past is short but future unlimited.

The group retraced its way to Fort Riley, arriving late on a Sunday afternoon and appearing early the next morning on its horses.

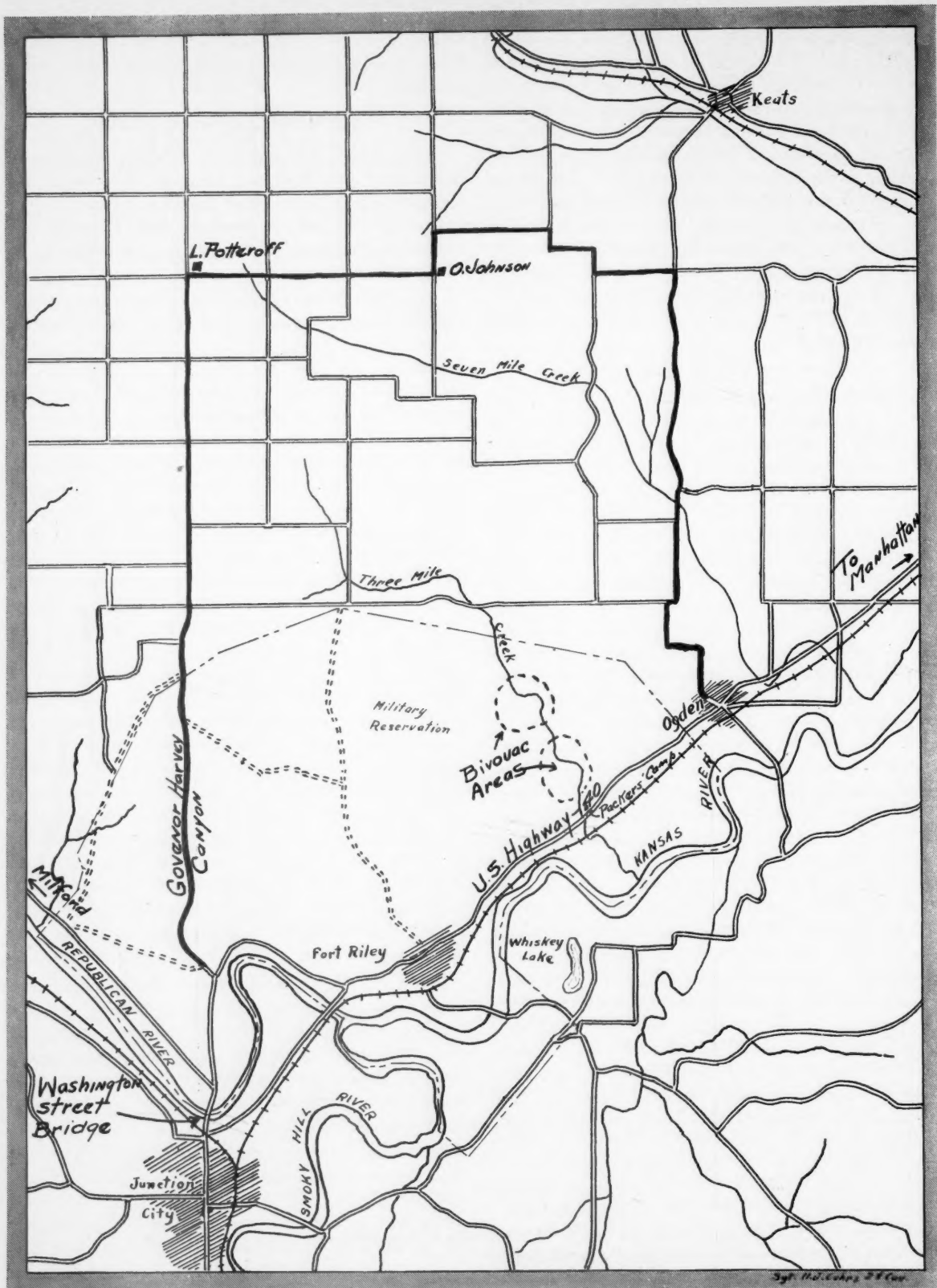
It was a profitable week—one of the most profitable in the whole school year. One's vision of cavalry was not confined to what man and horse could do, but to what man, horse, and mechanized vehicle could do, a combination of great potential strength but one needing technical training, cooperative training, and the leadership that cavalry can furnish.

*"It has always been my rule to be meticulous in preparation so that I may be swift in action."*—MARSHAL PIETRO BADOGLIO.

#### NAPOLEON'S XXIX MAXIM OF WAR

*WHEN YOU HAVE resolved to fight a battle, collect your whole force. Dispense with nothing. A single battalion sometimes decides the day.*

Platoon Phase, Leadership Tests—2d Cavalry



Legend  
Route of march of platoon

Scale 1 0 1 2 3 miles

# Cavalry Leadership Tests For Small Units

## 2d Cavalry

**INTRODUCTION:** In June, 1937, the Second Cavalry received a directive from the Chief of Cavalry requiring Cavalry Leadership Tests for Small Units. The tests were conducted during the first week of November.

In compliance with the directive of the Chief of Cavalry, the board of officers appointed to draw up and conduct the test decided to make it one designed to test *tactical ability and training* rather than one of a sportive or physical pentathlon character. With this in view, the test was drawn up so as to consist of two general parts:

1. The Individual Phase. In this phase all rifle troop lieutenants were required to compete. (Value 25%.)

2. The Platoon Phase in which one war strength platoon from each rifle troop was ordered to participate.

The Individual Phase comprised a 650 yard competitive dash on foot, followed by a controlled point to point ride with jumps. The ride was approximately five miles and required an intimate knowledge of gaiting, ability to read maps and to march by compass. The ride ended with firing on a mounted pistol course.

The Platoon Phase began with the arrival of the platoon (one platoon each day) at the north end of the Washington Street bridge in Junction City. It was picked up at this point by two umpires who conducted it through a musketry or combat firing phase in the vicinity of the sand dunes. This firing was almost entirely against concealed targets, simulating thereby as nearly as possible a war situation. This required considerable preliminary training in fire distribution—an extremely difficult thing to accomplish on concealed targets. Following the musketry, the platoon was directed to the mouth of Governor Harvey Canyon where it was joined by two other umpires. At this point, the platoon leader was issued the following tactical situation and requirement:

The Kansas River is the boundary between the two hostile states, Blue south, Red north. Red possesses strong attack aviation.

At the outbreak of hostilities, the Blue 2d Cavalry crossed the river at Engineer Bridge and seized Fort Riley holding this place as a bridgehead until the arrival of additional Blue forces.

Immediately upon arrival at Fort Riley, the regimental commander instituted intensive reconnaissance of the area

to the north. Detachments, of the size of a platoon, were sent out on the following routes:

### DETACHMENT A

RJ 1082—Highway 77—L. Potteroff's Farm—east three miles to O. Johnson's Farm—then north one-half mile—east two miles—south one-half mile—east one mile—thence south to Ogden—west along Highway 40 across Three Mile Creek into a suitable bivouac north of RJ 1088A. (The route one-half mile north of O. Johnson's Farm—east two miles—south one-half mile is not shown on your map.)

### DETACHMENT B

The reverse of the route of Detachment A.

### DETACHMENT C

Highway 40 to Manhattan—thence west to road junction four and one-half miles north of Ogden—south to Ogden. (Not shown on map—this does not concern your platoon.)

### DETACHMENT D

East bank of Republican River to Milford—east one mile—Milford road to Fort Riley. (This does not concern your platoon.)

At 10:00 A.M. ———, the regimental commander assembled the commanders of these detachments and issued the following orders to each detachment commander:

"Detachment A will carefully reconnoiter the route indicated with the view of determining the presence or absence of the enemy thereon. It will cover its route as far as Ogden by 2:00 P.M. and bivouac for the night in a suitable area along Three Mile Creek. The following day it will move out at 7:00 A.M. and retrace the route of the day before, arriving at Fort Riley not later than 3:00 P.M. (Second day's march was assumed.) Prompt report to regiment will be made of any enemy forces advancing from the north. It is important that the detachment brush aside any enemy patrols encountered and continue on its mission.

"Ogden will be reconnoitered prior to going into bivouac and all information obtained there will be promptly reported."

Upon receiving this situation together with a map, the platoon leader was allowed fifteen minutes to familiarize himself with the situation, make a decision and issue his orders.

During the march the platoon was confronted with a

number of tactical situations including the reconnaissance of the village of Ogden.

Finally the platoon was required to bivouac for the night and maintain the necessary security for local protection.

A detailed account of the conduct of the test with occasional critiques is contained in the remainder of this article.

#### INDIVIDUAL PHASE

The opening phase of the Leadership Test was the point to point ride, followed immediately by the mounted pistol firing. These two events constituted the Individual Phase.

Five regular army lieutenants were designated to participate in this phase. The five Reserve Officers (Thomason act), assigned to the regiment, were also directed to take part in it as part of their training.

Preliminary instructions to the participants covered the following points:

a. Equipment: Field belt, with pistol and 7 rounds ammunition, stripped field saddle, optional bridle, marching compass and map of Fort Riley reservation.

b. To report to Point A (northwest corner of Pump-house Polo Field) at designated time (15 minute intervals). Horses, warmed up by preliminary exercise (optional), to be sent to Point B (approximately 650 yards east of Point A) with instructions to orderly as to how they were to be worked during the fifteen minutes contestant was at Point A. Horses prepared to gallop upon arrival of contestant.

c. To receive written instructions at Point A, read, plot course on map, and be prepared to proceed at the end of fifteen minutes on the course. The course to include a rapid dismounted movement to Point B (in which time is the deciding factor), and a mounted course over approximately seven miles of difficult terrain, including obstacles, to be negotiated at the rates indicated.

d. To return to Point A upon completion of course, present horse for Veterinary inspection, then proceed to mounted pistol course.

All contestants were able to digest their instructions and plot their courses within the fifteen minute time limit

allowed at Point A. The estimated time to Point B, including mounting at that point, was 3 minutes, with an allowance of fifteen seconds. Two contestants bettered this time, four were within the allowance, and four exceeded it. A bonus of one point was given for each 15 seconds undertime and a loss of one point for each fifteen seconds overtime. Fastest time 2:40, slowest 4:35.

The instructions for the movement from Point B to Point C (about 2 miles distant near the Reservoir) were to gallop at a rate of sixteen miles per hour, slowing to trot or walk where the terrain requires it. The estimated time for this movement, established by timing three horses, was 11 minutes, with an allowance of 2 minutes. The difficulty encountered was principally in locating the four jumps, which had been designated by coördinates, and in keeping on the course through the stream line of Hill Pasture and the difficult terrain of Jug Canyon. Four of the regular lieutenants crossed without difficulty, averaging 11½ minutes. The fifth got off the course in the trees of Hill Pasture, and required 18 minutes to cross. This was reflected later in the condition of his horse at Point D. The Reserve Officers, having less knowledge of the reservation, had poorer luck at this point. Only one of the five crossed within the time limit.

From Point C to Point D (on Artillery Hill, about 1.8 miles distant) the gallop continued. This involved the selection of a crossing of Magazine Canyon and the walk out of the canyon. The estimated time was 9 minutes, with an allowance of 2 minutes. Six of the contestants negotiated this easily within the time limit, only those who were off the course having difficulty.

At Point D a halt of five minutes was required in order to rest the horses and to allow the contestants to take compass bearings. At this point a time penalty was imposed upon horses obviously tired from galloping.

The instructions at Point D were to proceed at a rate of 8 miles per hour to Point E, located about 6,200 yards distant on 302 degrees true (grid) azimuth. This involved the use of the marching compass. The rate of march was difficult to maintain with the time allowance for the necessary compass bearings. The computed time was 28 min-



Winning Platoon, Troop A, 2d Cavalry

utes, with an allowance of 3 minutes. Five of the contestants came within the allowed time. The spread was from 25 to 36 minutes. It was easy to observe from this station (near Estes Gate) whether the contestants were approaching upon the designated line. This required the conversion of true to magnetic azimuth. Six of the ten were on the proper line.

At Point E the instructions were to proceed down a highway (easily recognized as the Governor Harvey Road) at a rate of five miles per hour to Point F (near mouth of Governor Harvey Canyon). The distance was 3.1 miles, the computed time 37 minutes, with an allowance of 3 minutes. This apparently the easiest of all the prescribed movements, caused the most difficulty, only four of the contestants being within the allotted time. The spread was from 29 minutes to 43 minutes, the great majority being too fast.

The horses were walked from Point F back to the starting point, without score. There they were examined and all found to be in good condition.

After a few minutes' rest each contestant fired the

mounted pistol course. Although there were only seven targets, fired four right and three left with a change of magazines and at a sixteen mile gallop, the course was made difficult by the introduction of two prone and two kneeling targets. Only one contestant fired a perfect score.

The scores made in the Individual Phase were:

	Point to Point		Mounted Pistol	
	Score	Weighted Score	Score	Weighted Score
<b>Regular Officers</b>				
Lt. Matyas (alternate) . . .	99	19.80%	85	4.25%
Lt. Womack . . . . .	95	19.00%	94	4.70%
Lt. Hurt . . . . .	96	19.20%	77	3.85%
Lt. Snee . . . . .	92	18.40%	65	3.25%
Lt. Johnston . . . . .	80	16.00%	100	5.00%
<b>Reserve Officers</b>				
Lt. Calahan . . . . .	96	19.20%	70	3.50%
Lt. Shotwell . . . . .	78	15.60%	54	2.70%
Lt. Starks . . . . .	76	15.20%	82	4.10%
Lt. Preston . . . . .	58	11.60%	74	3.70%
Lt. Philbeck . . . . .	56	11.20%	..	..

NOTE: Weighted scores were obtained by applying the value of the event to the score. The Point to Point consisted



*A Platoon in March Formation. (From 2,000 feet altitude.)*

20% of the total Leadership Test, the mounted pistol firing, 5%.

#### MUSKETRY PHASE

This phase was the first encountered by the platoon in its test. The targets were in three groups. The first group of 10 targets was 300 yards away from the firing point and with the exception of the flank targets were well concealed in the grass. The second group of 7 targets was at a range of 400 yards. It was placed somewhat out to the enemy right flank to simulate a squad covering the withdrawal of the platoon represented by the first group. The third group was composed of 21 targets placed in a fairly visible position on a slope 600 yards from the firing point and on the enemy left flank. This group represented the second position taken by the enemy platoon. The firing point required to be occupied by the competing platoon was rather irregular with a shallow wash passing through it. It was covered with high grass so that the platoon leader was faced with a problem in placing his platoon so that it could fire on the targets.

When the platoon arrived at the designated assembly point, it was dismounted and the horses turned over to horseholders already on hand. This was done so that every member of the competing platoon was available to fire. The platoon commander was then given the tactical situation, as well as the ground rules demanded by safety requirements. He was graded on the manner in which he explained this to his platoon. Two of the four leaders did not explain these ground rules. The platoon, by order of the platoon commander, was then placed in an approach march formation, with scouts out, to advance in the designated direction. They were informed that they might at any time come under small arms fire. The approach march was well handled in all platoons, but the umpires gave the greatest cuts to the conduct of the scouts. In only one platoon did the scouts seem to understand that they had reconnaissance duties and that their job was more than to march at a designated distance in front of the platoon. Upon the arrival of the scouts at the firing point they were told that they had been fired on and the location of the first group of targets was pointed out to them. The platoon leader then came up on reconnaissance and secured the location of the targets from the scouts. The squad leaders were assembled by the platoon commander and were given the fire order. Two of the four platoon leaders failed to give the distribution of fire over the target. Only one platoon leader called on his squad leaders for assistance in the estimation of the range. These facts were used by the umpires in grading on this part of the test.

Five minutes was allowed for fire on the first group of targets. After two minutes had elapsed the second group of targets was pointed out to the platoon leader and he was told that his left flank was receiving fire from that enemy group. Only one platoon failed to switch quickly and place effective fire on this group of targets. The chief umpire gave the signal, "Suspend Firing" at the expiration of the time limit. He then pointed out the final target

for the platoon. As soon as the platoon leader stated that he understood the target, time was taken, so that the time limit of 10 minutes also covered the fire order. This was very well done by all platoons, each one securing about the same number of hits and hitting all but one target.

#### MARCH AND BIVOUAC PHASE

After the musketry phase, platoons were inspected to make sure there was no ball ammunition carried.

They then moved to the RJ at the mouth of Governor Harvey Canyon where they were met by two umpires, one mounted on a horse, the other mounted in a scout car.

The senior umpire gave verbally to the platoon leader the general situation and orders to the platoon, pointing out the route of march on a map, which the platoon leader was allowed to keep. The march to Ogden measured 20½ miles.

The tactical situation given the platoon leader was that included in the introduction of this article.

Two of the platoon leaders explained the situation and orders to the platoon as a whole and issued their orders for their march within the hearing of all. The others issued their orders to their NCO's only and gave the platoon general comments on the situation. Only one leader gave the entire situation in such a way that his platoon could have accomplished its entire mission had he become a casualty.

All platoon leaders gave rates of march over 5 miles per hour initially, the maximum being 6½ miles per hour. Suitable security measures for the march were also prescribed, although there was some variety in formation of points, and distances between the point and main body varied from 200 and 400 yards.

All platoon leaders gave careful instructions to the point leader as to his route. Two platoon leaders gave him the map with route marked. In spite of this two of the point leaders took wrong turns. In one case this was corrected by the platoon leader, in the other, about three miles of the prescribed route was lost.

Designation of successive objectives and assembly points was generally neglected.

It is believed that the point should preferably have two non-commissioned officers, one of which should be especially responsible for the route, and where traveling by map should check his location and route at frequent intervals. The platoon leader at halts and when approaching important road junctions or terrain features should ride forward and check with the point, the route to be followed.

One platoon leader gave careful instructions to his point commander of the action he should take in case of contact with the enemy. The others were much less specific, with resulting indecision on the part of the point in situations encountered.

The first special situation presented was a squad of mounted enemy cavalry which appeared galloping over a ridge 300 yards to the right of the road apparently at-

tacking the point as it emerged on the high ground at the head of Governor Harvey Canyon.

All platoons attacked the enemy squad mounted with the pistol employing all men available. The enemy squad promptly retreated and pursuit was stopped by the umpires, no captures being allowed.

Only one platoon leader failed to report this encounter, but in two cases platoon leaders waited until they had reached the edge of the reservation about one half hour later.

Mounted messengers might have been employed, but another good solution was to commandeer a car on the highway to carry the messenger and return him to the platoon.

After the mounted attack all platoons increased their rate of march to make up for time lost.

Formations used in moving across the high open country on the reservation varied considerably.

Three platoons took up extended order formations, line of squad columns, forages and line of squads in flock. In one case the point was allowed to get nearly 800 yards ahead with some loss of control; on the other hand one platoon marched in column of twos on the road only about two hundred yards behind its point.

The use of deployed formations by the patrol in open, unfenced country is good, but control must not be lost.

The second incident encountered by the platoons was a road block located at the foot of a long open slope, here the platoons were in farming country where all roads and fields were fenced. The barricade was defended by a machine gun which withheld its fire until the point had arrived to within 30 to 50 yards. This found the platoons just coming over the crest of a long slope and opposite a farm. All platoon leaders elected to attack the machine gun in flank, moving rapidly via a draw to the south. In two cases the remainder of the point, reinforced, was dismounted at the top of the slope and supported the attack by fire.

Two platoon leaders failed to report this action, the others elected to send a message by motor messenger in impressed transportation.

The action of the points at the road block was generally characterized by considerable indecision or hesitation when fired upon. Trapped in a narrow road, fenced on both sides and fired upon at close range by a machine gun, there appeared two possible actions for the point, either of which should have been done at once, namely, attack riding past the machine gun or retreat.

One point of four troopers came down the slope badly bunched and when fired upon halted, still bunched and remained so for several seconds before the corporal in charge elected to retire on the platoon which he did at the gallop. All but one man were ruled as casualties by the umpire.

Another platoon's point of four men after slight hesitation drew pistol and charged in close formation.

The next platoon had two men well out to the front

who upon being fired upon turned and galloped back rapidly.

The other platoon likewise had two men well out, but these upon being fired upon within 40 yards, dismounted after some hesitation at the side of the road, apparently with the idea of taking cover and stalking the machine gun.

Due to the short distance from the gun when fired upon and the long exposed slope to the rear the best solution was probably to charge, especially as the barricade could be easily passed, though a rapid retreat was considered satisfactory. In any case severe casualties could have been expected.

A mile and a half beyond the road block a scout car was spotted on a side road about 100 yards from the route of the platoon but concealed from it by a high hedge.

In one point, three men rode by without seeing the car. The fourth saw it and warned the other who dismounted at the side of the road taking cover but leaving their horses exposed.

In all other points the leading trooper discovered the scout car. In all cases signals were passed to the rear.

The scout car opened fire when discovered and continued fire as long as targets were visible. It did not move except in one case. In most cases only a burst or two of fire was possible before the points disappeared.

One platoon leader elected to avoid the scout car and go around. In this case the car by rapid movement on side roads again attacked the head of the platoon. Whereupon the platoon leader dismounted his platoon and attacked the car by fire and flanking action. The car was driven off.

The other platoon leaders elected to attack the car at once by fire and mounted envelopment using covered routes.

The latter was considered the best solution, as the scout car having discovered the platoon, might have continued to menace its march or report its movements unless disposed of.

Two platoon leaders failed to report this contact with hostile mechanization until arrival at Ogden. The others impressed private cars (assumed) and sent the message by motor messenger.

#### RECONNAISSANCE OF OGDEN

After more or less successfully engaging in this series of encounter en route the competing platoon found itself approaching the town of Ogden. The patrol had definite orders requiring that a reconnaissance of the town be made. While covering the last few miles prior to the actual entry the platoon leader should have been carefully considering possible ways and means for carrying out these orders. All cars coming from the direction of the town should have been stopped and the occupants closely questioned regarding enemy movements. Likewise, all cars attempting to pass in the direction of Ogden should have been made to follow the platoon so as to prevent



*Air Photograph of the Village of Ogden.*

word of its coming preceding the patrol. Upon arrival near the outskirts of the town the patrol should have been halted under cover with security furnished by small detachments at the front, flanks and rear. If the leader had not already done so he should at this time make a brief estimate of the situation and follow it up immediately by issuing his orders to his assembled NCO's, using his map to point his remarks. It is believed that these orders should have provided for a reconnaissance following generally the pattern outlined below.

Reference to the airplane photograph shows that Ogden suffered from growing pains in the days of its youth when land was cheap, so that at the present time this quiet little town of some six hundred inhabitants is sprawled over a fairly large area. To have used less than the maximum force available in the reconnaissance would have been uneconomical of time and effort.

*An assembly point should be designated prior to entry.* This should be some central point easily reached and easily recognizable, to be used as a rallying point in case the platoon is attacked or scattered. In two cases this was not satisfactorily done.

*The town should be reconnoitered prior to the entry of the bulk of the Platoon.* Probably the best method would be to send a small detachment forward for a quick look covered by the remainder of the platoon from commanding ground near the point of entry. In any case the platoon leader should carefully scrutinize the town through his field glasses from this same point. This item provided a wide variety of solutions with the ultimate winner following the method outlined above.

*The platoon should enter town rapidly.* This is perhaps done best at a gallop with individuals at raise pistol and with the platoon operating on a broad front. This is not a thorough search, but is a move designed to discover the possible presence of a large body of enemy.

*Town should be outposted at all four main exits.* Two men at each outpost position is deemed sufficient. The absolute need for this protection is apparent when it is remembered that the town is in hostile country and that there is certain to be some confusion and disorganization incident to the search.

*Some simple signal should be prescribed for outpost to use in case of a hostile threat.* Some combination of visual and sound signals is indicated. It would be useless to merely employ the usual visual signal "Enemy in sight."

The two items last described were more uniformly neglected in this problem than any others in the entire list.

*The post office should be searched.* File copies of recent messages are examined. In this case the following messages was discovered:

From: C.G. 1st Red Cav. Brig.  
At: Garrison, Kansas.  
Date: Hour: 6:00 A.M.  
To: C.O. 1st Sq., 2nd Red Cav.  
At: Ogden, Kansas.

Brig. marches at 5:00 A.M. tomorrow via Leonardville

—Keats to seize crossing of Kansas River at Manhattan. Proceed without delay to Manhattan, seize crossings of Kansas River at that point pending arrival of Brig.

B,  
Brig. Gen.

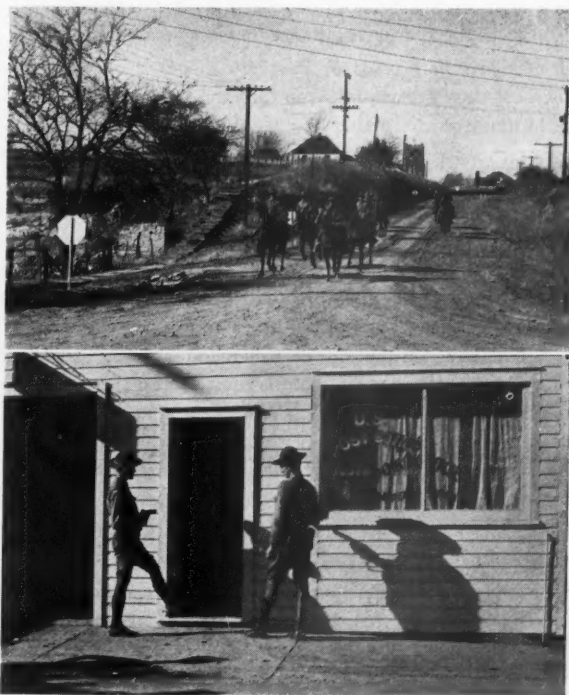
*The telephone exchange should be visited and placed under guard with a man at the switchboard to listen in on calls.* In this problem unfortunately Ogden had no exchange of its own which is the case in many small communities.

*Prominent or well informed citizens should be questioned.* Information would most likely be obtained by thorough questioning of the mayor, councilmen, policemen and firemen, merchants, barkeepers, filling station attendants, telephone operators, etc. In this problem the mayor made the following statement when properly questioned:

"A red force of about 400 men bivouacked last night in Ogden. This force marched east on Highway 40 at 7:15 A.M. today. Destination unknown. Identification of organization unknown. No further information."

*Stragglers should be captured.* In this problem two enemy soldiers suitably uniformed were spotted in fairly prominent locations. It is believed that both of these men should have been picked up promptly by leading elements of the patrol.

*Stragglers are searched and questioned.* The two prisoners bore no messages, but were instructed to give the fol-



Top—Rear party entering Ogden. Bottom—Search of post office in Ogden.

lowing information only in answer to direct questioning:

- (a) My name is (John Smith) (Joe Jones).
- (b) Rank—Private.
- (c) Organization—Troop "A," 2nd Red Cavalry.
- (d) My squadron, 1st squadron, 2nd Red Cavalry arrived in Ogden at 11:30 A.M. yesterday.
- (e) The squadron has about 400 men.
- (f) The squadron came from Keats yesterday.
- (g) (Smith) (Jones) and I got drunk last night in Junction City. When we got back this morning, the squadron had left Ogden and took our horses with them.
- (h) I don't know where it went.
- (i) No further information.

At this time all information available should have been in the hands of the platoon leader. It is evident that the different statements checked very nicely against the captured telegrams and the information so obtained was extremely important. This information should be forwarded to regimental headquarters without delay and it is believed that the best method available would be by telephone if the lines were still open. This method is considered best for the following reasons:

- (a) It is the quickest.
- (b) No personnel need be detached.
- (c) It is surest because of man to man conversation. Unfortunately in this problem the two platoon leaders who attempted this method found that communication had been interrupted. The next best method is believed to be by impressed automobile. This method of transmission if used should be supplemented by telegraph if available or by mounted messengers.

*The prisoners must be properly disposed of.* Probably the best method would be to forward them to regimental headquarters for further questioning by intelligence personnel, using as transportation the impressed automobile carrying the captured message and the other enemy information. An alternate solution would be to keep them in bivouac overnight with the platoon turning them loose the next morning after depriving them of boots and possibly breeches. In no case should they be turned loose in Ogden on the departure of the platoon.

Upon the completion of the reconnaissance and just prior to the departure of the platoon the outpost must be ordered to rejoin. At this time the platoon leader should call for a roll call and a brief check on equipment. With its business in Ogden accomplished the platoon should leave the town *rapidly* preceded by an advance guard and followed by a small rear guard.

In summing up the results of this phase of the Leadership Test it may be said that all competing platoons were successful in obtaining at least the bulk of the information planted in Ogden. Probably all would have been successful in ultimately placing that information in the hands of the regimental commander, although some did not take advantage of the best means of transmission available. If any enemy force had appeared at the height of the dis-

organization necessarily attendant upon a reconnaissance of this type it is probable that some of the platoons might have been severely punished due to inadequate security measures.

#### PLATOON PHASE—BIVOUAC

The bivouac area should have been tentatively selected from a map reconnaissance and the route of entry selected. Entry and reconnaissance of the bivouac area should have been made under the security of a covering force properly located. The area afforded two general locations—one along Three Mile Creek and one a little further west along Forsyth Creek. The first although selected by two platoons was too near to Highway 40 and was not as easily outposted as the other. Only two platoons selected both day and night locations for their bivouacs.

Saddles should have been left on the horses for at least 10 minutes after arrival. The horses had been saddled for approximately 7½ hours and had, in general, covered over 30 miles. Legs should have been rubbed while the reconnaissance of the area was being completed. When the daytime site was selected hay could have been fed, if available, saddles removed but blankets left on for another 10 minutes. Leg rubbing should have continued until the saddles were removed and then the backs massaged.

Decision should have been made to water at the near by tank in Packers' Camp as the water in Three Mile Creek was stagnant and dirty and the footing very poor.

The march outposts were in all cases relieved after the horses were cared for; the horses of the men on outpost were brought in and groomed by the remainder of the detachment. Horses were left tied on trees until the picket line was put up for the night.

The outpost during daylight should have covered the three likely avenues of approach—Highway 40, Three Mile and Forsyth Creeks, as well as high ground. This could have been done by three outposts of two men each. It was best to have two men in each group so that one could remain while one returned to alert the detachment rather than to fire shots to attract attention.

The watering at Packers' Camp should have been done under cover of a security group on Highway 40 and on Packers Hill. Only two of the platoons did this well or had the men carry their rifles when leading to water.

At night the sentinels could have been drawn in very close to the bivouac as the rough terrain prevented approach except by the high ground from the west or on the roads.

Information should have been sent back that the detachment had gone into bivouac and the location of both the day and night bivouac areas.

Conclusion—All platoons were well trained and handled for this phase. The difference in execution and ratings was largely the variation in team work. The part that could be played by non-commissioned officers all through this phase had a material bearing on the results. Non-commissioned officers should check to see that the orders of the platoon leader are properly carried out, that

orders of the platoon leader are properly carried out, that led horses are properly under cover whenever the detachment dismounted, that the outpost remains in position, that horses are properly cared for both on the march and in bivouac. They could have prevented much unnecessary galloping.

There is no doubt that the training for and participation in such tests are the finest training for Cavalry units. It would be well if such tests were held more often, not only for selected platoons but for all platoons.

## 7th Cavalry

The Leadership Tests for small units, Seventh Cavalry, were conducted in accordance with instructions from the War Department, the Adjutant General Office, Washington, D. C., June 1, 1937, and the Regimental Commander's Directive, dated November 9, 1937.

### THE INDIVIDUAL PHASE

Since the Individual Phase was a decided departure from the usual Platoon Leaders test, it is believed that the conditions under which this test was conducted will be of interest.

Extracts of the Regimental Commander's Directive:

"In drafting the conditions for this test, the board will be governed as follows:

a. First Phase (Individual test for Platoon Commander).

Weight ..... 100

(1) *Purpose*: This test is to demonstrate the endurance and ability of the officer acting alone. In case the platoon commander fails to attain 75% in this test, he and his platoon will be eliminated from further competition.

(2) *General Conditions*: It is the desire of the regimental commander that this be made a really gruelling test; no mere ride of a few miles over obstacles is deemed adequate.

(3) *Special Conditions*: This test should be in the nature of an independent scout or courier mission over partly unknown, mountainous country. It should include severe physical exertion, within certain time limits, such as leading a horse over long distances or up steep trails, or scaling, on foot, heights inaccessible to the horse, leaving the animal tied below. It will be conducted after the manner of a point to point ride of at least 50 miles with at least six control stations. Conditions will be interjected that not only test the endurance of the officer, but that will also show his ability to exercise common sense, judgment and quick decision, as well as his ability to find the assigned route over partly unknown country, by the use of a map and compass. Rating sheets will include weights for ability and endurance in each requirement, subdivided as the board may determine. Platoon leaders' Horses will be examined by a veterinarian and the platoon commanders, themselves, will be examined by a physician, both

at the beginning and the conclusion of this test. The marking of this requirement will be based on a weight of at least thirty for the condition of the man and ten for the condition of the horse at the finish of the test."

The board following the directive, planned what they considered a really gruelling test. It is believed that the contestants will agree that the word GRUELLING was no idle threat.

General Situation: a Maps: Road Map of Texas, C. E. U. S. Army Tactical Map, Fort Bliss and Hueco Tanks Sheet.

(b) Boundary. The Rio Grande River is the border between two States, Blue (South) and Red (North).

(c) War has recently been declared between the Blue and Red States.

(d) A large force of Red Cavalry is known to be concentrating in the vicinity of Fort Davis, 100 miles South-east of Sierra Blanca.

(e) Both the Red and Blue Cavalry are organized at Peace Strength and the comparative strength of the units is considered equal.

Special Situation (Blue): a. The 7th Blue Cavalry crossed the border a few days ago and seized the Post at Fort Bliss, Texas. The Red garrison withdrew to the east.

b. On the morning 6 December, the location of the Seventh Cavalry was as follows: The regiment (less a squadron) was in garrison at Fort Bliss, collecting military supplies and destroying property that they could not use. The second squadron was on outpost and reconnaissance duty.

c. At 6:00 A.M. 6 December, the Colonel, Seventh Cavalry, received the following message from his brigade commander, which read in part as follows: "Red advance element, estimated at a squadron of cavalry with armored vehicles attached, arrived at Lobo this morning and went into bivouac.

d. Enemy activity at Fort Davis, indicates that a large force is preparing to march west early today.

e. It is imperative that you stop this westward movement of Red Troops at Sierra Blanca. The Brigade less 7th Cavalry will cross the border in the vicinity of Fort Hancock 7 December and arrive at Sierra Blanca 6:00 P.M. 7 December."

f. Colonel 7th Cavalry decided: To march at once on Sierra Blanca with the 7th Cavalry (less one Squadron), to have Lieutenant ( ) noted as a courier notify all elements of the Second Squadron to assemble at Fort Bliss by . . . . P.M. 6 December, and to have it follow the regiment without delay.

Five officers competed in this phase:

Second Lieutenant Albert B. Turner, Troop A,  
Second Lieutenant Hilwert S. Streeter, Troop B,  
Second Lieutenant Edward W. Williams, Troop E,  
Second Lieutenant Creighton Abrams, Troop F,  
Second Lieutenant Caesar F. Fiore, Headquarters Troop, (alternate).

The officers drew lots to decide time of starting and all

received their controls at exactly the same problem time so as to give no advantage to any contestant.

The warning order: "(1) Warning to Contestants.

(a) Report mounted to Umpire No. 1, at .... A.M. .... December, 1937, at Regimental Headquarters, 7th Cavalry.

(b) Enemy's situation will be explained to you at that time.

(c) Be prepared to make a ride, the general conditions of which are described in Memorandum, Headquarters, 7th Cavalry, dated November 9, 1937, paragraph 2a. It is assumed that this ride is to be made in time of War, in enemy territory, during daylight hours.

(d) Uniform: Breeches, boots, shirts, and hat.

(e) Equipment: Each contestant will select the equipment he considers essential to the proper completion of a ride of this nature.

(f) March Tables: Each contestant will prepare march tables for 6-7-8- and 9 miles per hour. In the preparation of the march tables, a sixty minute hour will be used, all halts being made at Control Stations, i.e., a 6 mile per hour table will be figured at the rate of 1 mile in 10 minutes, 6 miles in an hour. March tables will be prepared in duplicate, the 1st copy will be turned in to Umpire No. 1 when the contestants report.

H.  
Col., 7th Cav."

All contestants started at 7:00 A.M., 6th of December problem time. Actually two officers started on the 6th of December at one hour intervals, and three officers started on the 7th of December at forty-five minute intervals.

Upon reporting at 6:30 A.M., each officer received the situation and a march order:

"(1) In accordance with his decision Colonel, 7th Cavalry, issues the following order:

(a) Do you understand the situation?

(b) March at 7:00 A.M., today by this route, pointing to map, to Station A at 6 miles per hour.

(c) Notify all elements of the 2d Squadron to assemble at Fort Bliss, Texas, by 5:00 P.M., today, and give this message to Major X personally.

(d) Report to the various elements of the 2d Squadron any enemy encountered en route.

H.  
Col., 7th Cav."

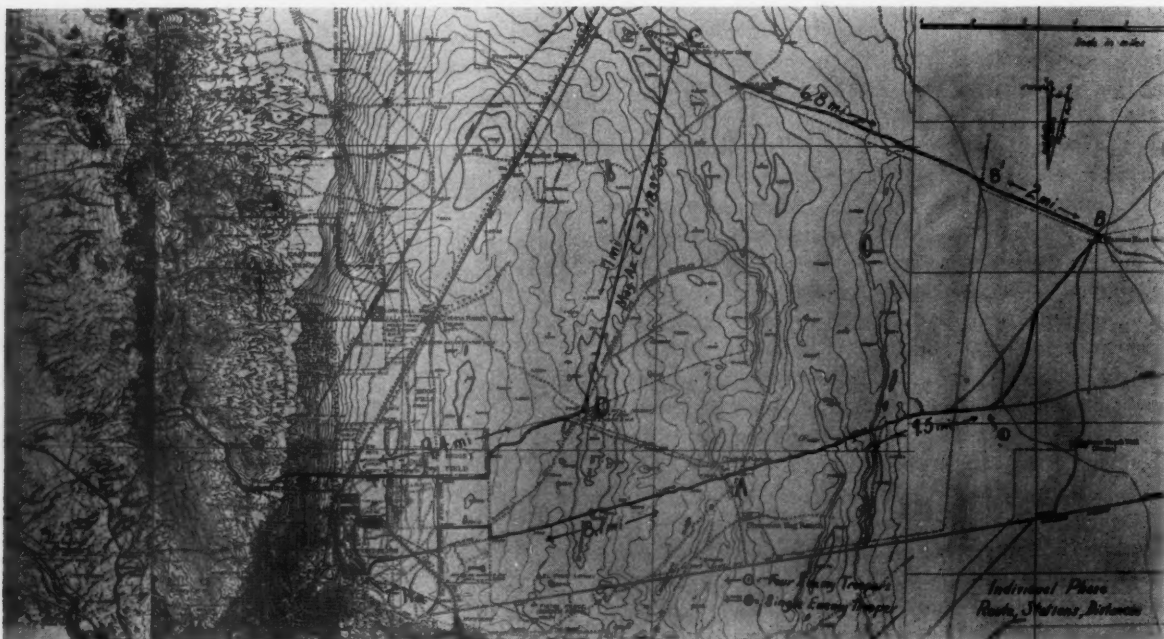
The officers were graded on the following score sheet:

Subject	Weight	Score
Military bearing and neatness .....	10	
Condition of equipment .....	9	
Feed of grain and nosebag .....	9	
Pistol loaded and locked .....	9	
Compass .....	9	
Protractor .....	9	
Straightedge .....	9	
Watch .....	9	
Pencil and notebook .....	9	
Canteen filled .....	9	
Suitability of march tables .....	9	
Total .....	100	
Conversion factor .....	8 1/3	
Value .....	12	

In addition to the above articles several contestants considered field glasses necessary and carried them to their discomfort.

At Station A (The Chicken Ranch), each contestant was graded on gaiting and cut a point for each minute he was over or under time, at the specified rate of march.

At this station and each station thereafter each contest-



ant was graded on whether or not he delivered the message to the station Commander, relative to the assembly of the 2d Squadron at 5:00 P.M.

It is suffice to say that all received full credit for this part of the mission throughout the problem.

Upon arrival at Station A the contestants learned that the elusive Major X had just left Station A for Station B, where he expected to remain for one hour and fifteen minutes.

Each contestant was required to state the rate of march he expected to take in order to deliver the message entrusted to him for Major X.

En route to Station B each contestant was attacked by a half squad of the enemy, and was graded on the success of his flight, and the continuance of his mission without loss of time or distance. All but one officer successfully eluded the enemy.

Two officers failed to approximate their selected rate of march and lost points at Station B, (Nation's East Well).

Upon leaving Station B each contestant was required to lead two miles at five miles per hour, through deep sand, with a cut of one full point for each minute or fraction of a minute over time. This was probably the hardest test of the entire ride.

Only one competitor completed the lead in the required time. He received a point and a quarter bonus for being under time.

One contestant completed the lead in twenty-six minutes, one in twenty-nine minutes and two failed to lead four miles per hour, losing five points.

Upon completing the lead each contestant mounted and rode to Station C, (McElroy's Cow Camp). Here he received a control, which stated that Major X had just left for Station D, (distance 7 miles, magnetic azimuth 183 degrees, 30 minutes). He was also told that he could borrow a protractor from the Station Commander. If the contestant borrowed the protractor he was cut on the score sheet at Regimental Headquarters for not having one with him. If he used his compass as a protractor and located his station, he received no cut.

At station C, the contestant was graded on these points.

Subject	Weight	Score
Did contestant water horse without being told to do so .....	42	
Did contestant deliver message re assembly 2d Squadron .....	28	
Did contestant locate station without assistance .....	30	
<hr/>		
Conversion factor .....	14.285	
Value .....	7	

Station C was, in many ways, the deciding factor in the winning of the Individual Phase. Two contestants failed to water at this station, one could not locate Station D without assistance. All left Station C on a compass bearing without maps.

Station D (Baker's Well) was a very indefinite land-

mark and very hard to find unless the rider passed within a few hundred yards of the station.

Between Station D and Station E (McKilligan's Canyon) each contestant was confronted by an enemy trooper, who surrendered upon being charged with a pistol, but, if he was not searched for weapons, would shoot his captor at the first opportunity. Two of the five officers received maximum scores.

Upon arrival at Station E the weary couriers learned that the ever elusive Major had scaled the Franklin Mountains to an observation station on the western slope, and would not return until 10:30 P.M. that evening. The only solution was to leave his horse to be cared for by the detachment at Station E and climb the mountains to Station E Prime.

A control issued at Station E stated that in this situation the element of time was the most important factor. The time set for the round trip from Station E was one hour and six minutes. All but one officer made the time set and received a small bonus.

At Station E Prime it was interesting to note the difference in the physical condition of the various officers. One contestant, who had made a very fast ride over the whole course, drove himself to the utmost in his climb over the mountain and arrived at the station exhausted. He delivered his message and left immediately. The terrain was rough and the rocks were very slippery. At intervals of every fifty to one hundred yards this officer fell. After five or ten seconds he would get up and start on, only to fall again. His physical examination later revealed that fatigue had affected his eyesight.

Another officer reported apparently in excellent condition. He made a very coherent report; discussed the problem at some length and sat down to rest. The umpire finally suggested to him that he move along as time counted in this situation. He replied, "I am too tired. I have to rest a while."

The following table is a comparison of speed vs. condition of horse and rider at the end of the ride:

Contestant Number	Total Distance Marched	Elapsed Time	Is He Fit To Continue Mounted	Is Horse Fit To Continue	Score	
					Rider Basis 30	Horse 10
1	51.7 mi.	8 h. 19 m.	No	Yes	18	9
2	est. 60 mi.	12 h. 30 m.	Yes	Yes	20	9.7
3	est. 55 mi.	11 h. 19 m.	Yes	Yes	30	9.5
4	51.7 mi.	10 h. 9 m.	Yes	Yes	29.5	9
5	51.7 mi.	10 h. 45 m.	Yes	Yes	22	9.6

Contestant Number 1 made the fastest time for the entire ride. He bettered the time set by the board in both dismounted phases of the march. Although he received the bonus for his exceptionally fast dismounted work, the fact that he arrived for his physical examination before he had time to recuperate from his extra physical effort counted against him when he took his physical examination after the test.

All but Number 2 delivered the message to Major X

in sufficient time for him to comply with the Commanding Officer's orders. In the case of Number 2, Major X would have arrived at Fort Bliss at 5:30 P.M., problem time.

The cooperation of the Medical and Veterinary Corps was excellent. Captain James E. Graham, Medical Corps, took the greatest interest in the test and arranged, through the Commanding Officer of William Beaumont General Hospital to use the laboratories of the hospital to test the amount of fatigue each contestant suffered.

Extracts of the Medical Report of Captain James E. Graham, Medical Corps.

"In the first phase of the leadership contest, held by the Seventh Cavalry at Fort Bliss, Texas, during the month of December, 1937, considerable stress was placed on the physical condition and endurance of the officers participating.

A total of 100 points was allowed for this phase of the contest and of this, 30 points were given to the physical condition and endurance of the contestant.

Realizing that this was a large figure in determining the winner, it was thought that some laboratory and clinical studies of the contestants should be made in order to arrive at a more nearly fair estimate of that intangible quality or factor, physical endurance, other than the general physical appearance of the contestants.

On the second and third of December the contestants were subjected to some laboratory and clinical studies in order to have a basis for comparison of their physical status before and after the contest.

The officers participating in the contest were given another hasty examination immediately before starting. Immediately after the completion of the test they were subjected to the tests and studies held on the second and third of December.

The figure 30, based on 30 as 100% was given to the contestants whose general appearance and who, by clinical and laboratory studies, showed the least change and appeared the least fatigued. These figures or scores assigned to these contestants were arrived at after consultation with several medical officers, who assisted in giving and interpreting the findings of the various tests given. These figures must, by necessity, be arbitrary for there exists no definite yardstick by which fatigue or endurance can be accurately measured.

The contestants were between the ages of 23 and 26 years of age and in the 'pink' of physical condition.

Contestant No. 3. Age 26. Score 30. Examined at 6:30 AM December 7, 1937.

This officer is not apprehensive and appears to be in excellent physical condition.

IMPRESSION: He is here to do his best; let the glory fall where it may, it is no concern to him.

Finished contest at 6:19 PM, taking 11 hours and 19 minutes to complete the test.

The officer appears tired, though not to any considerable degree. He has no idea how he came out in this contest and does not make inquiry. He took the wrong road

at one point on the course which forced him to climb an extra mountain or two, so the probable out-put of foot pounds of work has probably been considerably greater than any of the other contestants. He thinks he could make the trip again tonight if he had to. Is still cool, calm and collected.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION (immediately before starting).

Temperature 98. Pulse 74. Immediately after exercise: 112. 2 minutes after exercise: 72. Blood Pressure 122/80.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION (immediately after contest).

Temperature 98. Pulse 80. 5 minutes after: 82. 10 minutes after: 85. Blood pressure 120/80.

#### LABORATORY AND OTHER DATA

1	2
Taken four days before contest:	Taken 40 minutes after completion of contest:
Urine—Sp Gr ..... 1.020	Sp Gr ..... 1.024
Blood chemistry: Fasting.	Blood chemistry: Not fasting.
N.P.N. .... 24.9	N.P.N. .... 64.8
Sugar ..... 105.3	Sugar ..... 86.
CO <sub>2</sub> Combining power ..... 70.6 vol %	CO <sub>2</sub> Combining power ..... 50 vol %
E.K.G. .... Normal	Normal.

#### Eye Muscle balance test

Vision ..... 20/15	20/15
6 meters Esophoria .... 1	Esophoria ..... 1
L.H. .... 1/2	R.H. .... 1/2
33 CM. Exophoria .... 2	Exophoria ..... 4
Prism divergence ..... 9	10
P.C.B. .... 60	70
Angle of convergency... 58	50

#### SCHNEIDER INDEX 4 Days Before Contest

Reclining Pulse Rate	Standing Pulse Rate	Points Increased Standing	Pulse Rate Increase After Exercise	Time To Return After Exercise	Blood Pressure	Index
62	82	20	10	45	R 110/70	13

#### 30 Minutes After Contest

80	100	20	16	60	R 110/74 S 92/64	5
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REMARKS: This officer shows definite signs of fatigue, but was considered to be in the best physical condition and to have stood the trip better than any of the other contestants.

Though this contest has formed a most interesting basis for further study of fatigue and endurance and a few new findings were brought to light, we have, however, studied too few cases in this series to arrive at any definite conclusions as to how fatigue can be more accurately measured."

First Lieutenant Don L. Deane, Veterinary Corps, made three examinations of each horse and scored the contestants' horses upon completion of the test.

Four officers successfully completed the Individual Phase. Second Lieutenant Caesar F. Fiore, Headquarters Troop, attained the grade of 77.48%, but since Headquarters Troop was not eligible for the Leadership Phase, he was dropped from the competition.

#### THE LEADERSHIP PHASE

In the Leadership Phase the Regimental Commander's directive required compliance with all instructions from the War Department and certain special conditions.

**Special Conditions:** (a) Tactical Situations, weight 200. Tactical exercises will be approximately ten (10) in number. They will include the use of the platoon as a covering force, a reconnaissance patrol, and a security detachment, involving such features as action against armored cars, concealment from planes, or such other situations as the board may devise. Each tactical exercise will be given a weight commensurate with its importance between the limits of 10 and 40, the total not to exceed 200. In marking these tactical exercises, 50% will be allotted to the decisions, orders and actions of the leader, i.e., his personal conceptions and the instructions he gives. The remaining 50% will be allotted to the actual manner of execution of the leader's decision by the platoon.

(b) Marching, camping, etc., weight 100. In this requirement the board will assign suitable proportional values to the following items:

- (1) The technique of marching, including march discipline, gaits, adjustment of equipment, and care of animals on the march.
- (2) Condition of equipment.
- (3) Map reading.
- (4) Orders, how given (Promptly, clearly, etc.).
- (5) Tactics involved (vigor, rapidity, will to win, mobility, simplicity, objective kept constantly in mind, use of maximum force at the critical point).
- (6) Selection of camp site and orderly entry into and departure from the camp together with the pro-

visions for watering, sanitation, security against observation and surprise, and the defensive possibility of the site.

- (7) Any other items of interest.

The board drew up a General and Special Situation similar in nature to the one prepared for the Individual Phase, which required a march of about 50 miles to and from the Dona Ana Target Range, and ten tactical situations, which were assigned a value of 20 each; ten points for the actions and orders of the platoon leader and ten points for the execution of the orders by the platoon.

The following weights were assigned to marching and camping:

#### MARCHING AND CAMPING

Requirement No.	Tactical Sit. No.	Name of Requirement or Situation	Initial Weight	Conversion Factor	Final Weight
1	No.	Condition of equipment . . . .	100	10	10
2	No.	Technique of marching . . . .	100	2.5	40
2a	No.	March Orders . . . . .	100	20	5
4	No.	Map reading . . . . .	100	20	5
10	No.	Watering and feeding of animals . . . . .	100	10	10
11	No.	Selection of camp site . . . . .	100	3.33	30

Total weight . . . . . 100

The above items were further broken down in the score sheets, which were filled in by the Umpires. A system of umpiring was devised so that each platoon was graded by the same umpire in each situation.

The umpire who graded the march to Dona Ana accompanied one platoon each day to Dona Ana, and returned by motor. Another officer came to Dona Ana each day and graded each platoon on the return march. A third umpire met each platoon before their arrival at Dona Ana and, acting as a guide, presented each tactical situation to the platoon leader at the same place.

The enemy were all members of the Machine Gun Troop and Headquarters Troop, 7th Cavalry, and offered stubborn resistance wherever met.

The only assumed enemy in the entire test were in those situations requiring the use of ball ammunition, and in the assumed attack by enemy aviation.

The ten tactical situations were:

- (1) Action against Scout Car.
- (2) Defense against aircraft.
- (3) Hasty mounted attack.
- (4) Attack on ranch.
- (5) Reconnoitering patrol.
- (6) Occupation of a defensive position.
- (7) Attack on moving scout car.
- (8) Defense against night attack.
- (9) Use of platoon as a covering force.
- (10) Dismounted attack as a combat patrol.

The Leadership Phase began on 14 December, with all platoons reporting at the same time for a formal in-

(Continued on page 50)



Franklin Mountains. Showing trail used between stations E and E'.

# Cavalry in War

*Caliber .30 Machine Gun Troop with .37-mm. guns*



*Caliber .50 Machine Gun Troop—No .37-mm. guns. Different Hq. than the Caliber .30 troop*



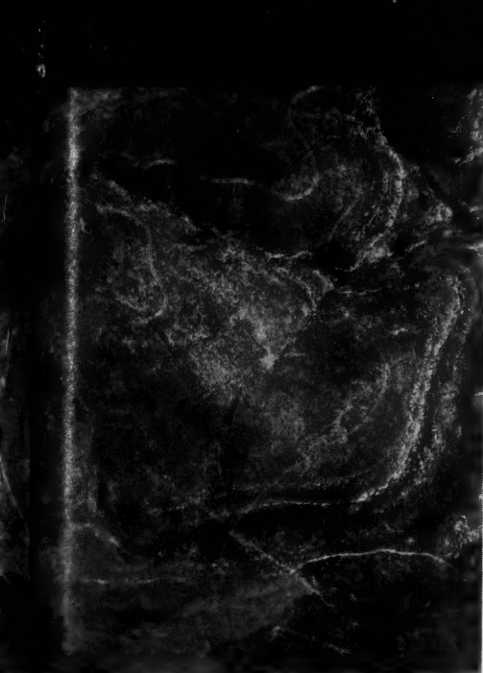
*Caliber .30 Machine Gun Platoon*



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\*Propos



*Machine Gun Troop advancing across  
country*

*Machine Gun Troop Advancing to Firing Positions*



## **The Machine Gun Troop War Strength**

A highly mobile unit of great fire power. With the Light Machine Guns of the Rifle Troops and Scout Car Platoon the Cavalry Regiment\* has a total of 120 machine guns available for:

Supporting the attack—see frontispiece  
Defense

Delaying action

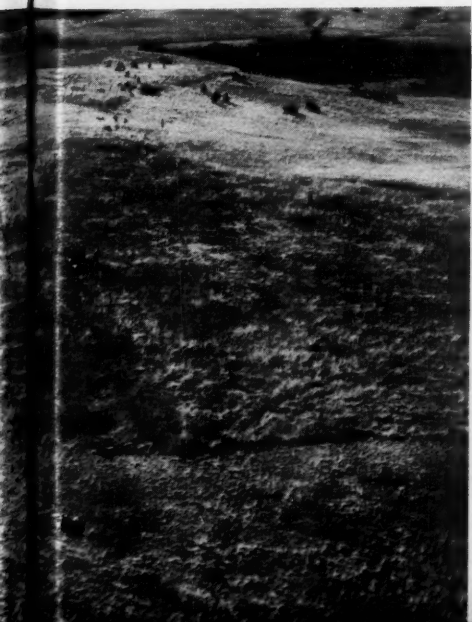
Antiaircraft protection

Anti-tank protection (utilizing Caliber .50 machine guns and 37-mm. guns)

\*Proposed organization.



*Another view of Machine Gun Troop Advancing to Firing Positions*



*Machine Gun Troop Going Into Action*

spection. The personnel of the platoons were checked and the platoon leaders drew lots for the order in which they should start. During the inspection it was snowing hard, and was very cold. After the inspection the platoons were assembled and the General Situation was explained to all platoons.

At noon the day previous to his test, the platoon leader received a warning order, which directed him to report at 8:30 A.M. the next day with his platoon.

#### SPECIAL SITUATION (Blue)

(a) At 7:10 A.M., December 14 (15, 16, 17), 1937, Colonel, 7th Cav., received a telephone call from Mr. COE, a rancher living near DONA ANA target range. COE stated that just before daylight this morning a RED force stopped at his ranch, seized his car and horses and some other supplies. They divided their force, about half going west and the other half going north. Some dozen or more men remained behind, with exhausted horses, in possession of the ranch. COE made his escape to one of the road stations on the CCC Target Range road where he telephoned. Other telephone lines appeared to be out.

(b) Colonel, 7th Cavalry, decided: To send a selected platoon to meet Mr. COE near the N. M.-Tex. state line, to march to the COE RANCH under his guidance, to drive out the enemy force and to reconnoiter from the Ranch through FILLMORE PASS to the west.

#### CONTROL NO. 4 CONTESTANTS:

(Released 8:45 A.M., 14, 15, 16, 17 December by Umpire No. 2 at Assembly Point.)

At 8:45 A.M. Col., 7th Cavalry issues the following oral order to the Platoon Commander:

"You understand the situation.

"Follow this route (points to map) and pick up Mr. COE at this point (points to map). Mr. Coe will guide you to his ranch and you will follow his advise insofar as it relates to terrain features.

"You will drive off the enemy force occupying COE'S RANCH.

"You will reconnoiter the road through FILLMORE PASS for three (3) miles west of COE RANCH and report any enemy force larger than a platoon. Negative information is not desired.

"You will march at a rate of five miles per hour, making five miles the first hour.

"You will act aggressively against armored vehicles and small bodies of enemy troops. No prisoners need be taken.

"I will keep you informed of the situation."

"You will rejoin the regiment upon receipt of orders from me.

"Are there any questions? Move out when you are ready."

Order completed at .....

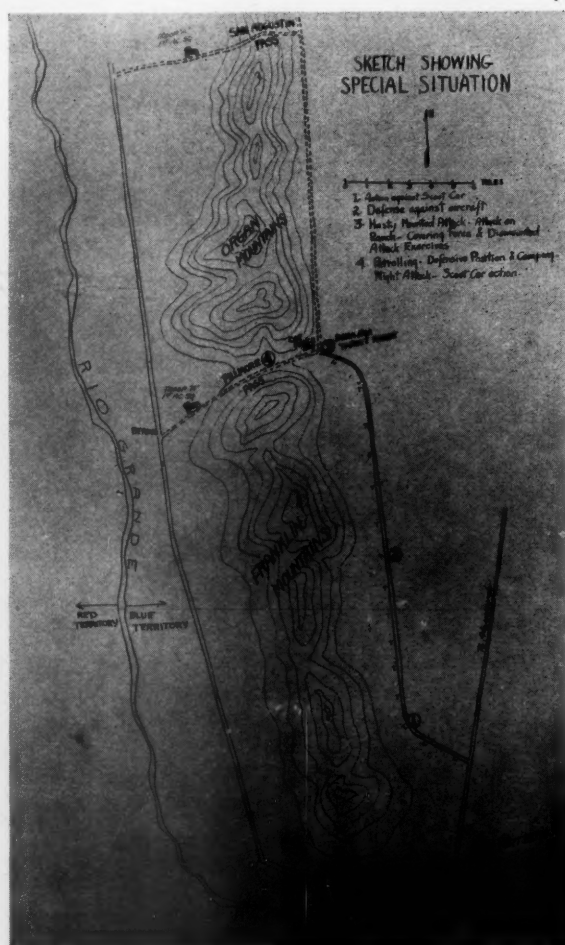
Upon receipt of the above order each platoon was allowed to march as soon as the platoon leader had issued the necessary orders:

Each platoon was graded on marching in accordance with the following score sheet:

1. Appointment of time keeper and pace setter . . . .	5
2. March log kept by time keeper . . . . .	5
3. Did platoon take up changes of gait together? . . .	5
4. Was suitable march table used? . . . . .	6
5. Adherence to march table . . . . .	5
6. Frequent check on animals' condition . . . . .	5
7. Adjustment of equipment at halts . . . . .	5
8. Do squad leaders repeat signals? . . . . .	5
9. Leading in middle of hour . . . . .	5
10. Smoothness of gaits . . . . .	7
11. Adequacy of change of gaits . . . . .	6
12. Arrival at destination on schedule . . . . .	6
13. March discipline . . . . .	9
14. General rating of umpire . . . . .	25

The marching and camping was excellent through the test in all platoons.

The first tactical situation, the attack upon the scout car, gave one platoon a decided advantage. The car stalled in the ditch beside the road, and under repair, was promptly surrounded and rushed from all sides before the personnel of the car could take any definite action for defense. Another platoon, not so prompt in action, suffered losses.



The third platoon avoided the car entirely and suffered heavy losses from the umpire's pencil.

All platoons were uniformly good in the assumed attack by enemy aviation.

The third tactical situation took place in the vicinity of the 300 yard butts at the Dona Ana Target Range. As the advance guard of each platoon approached the 300 yard butts it was surprised by a mounted enemy squad. All platoons without hesitation charged this force and routed them.

All platoons were promptly assembled and executed a mounted pistol attack with ball ammunition against targets furnished by the enemy detail. The results of this problem proved that mounted attacks are the Garry Owen's favorite form of exercise.

The attack upon the ranch brought three different solutions which were all satisfactory. One platoon made a dismounted attack; with an excellent use of cover. Two platoons made dismounted attacks with two squads and held a mounted reserve of one squad. The combined attack was much harder to coordinate and when the scoring was completed, there was no particular advantage gained by any platoon.

All platoon leaders seized upon the first opportunity to water and feed their horses and to allow their men to eat their prepared lunch.

Immediately after the capture of Mr. Coe's ranch, the platoon leader received the following dropped message:

#### U. S. ARMY FIELD MESSAGE

From. C. O., 7th Cavalry,

At Fort Bliss, Texas.

Date ..... Hour 3:00 P.M. No. .... How sent  
Dropped from an airplane.

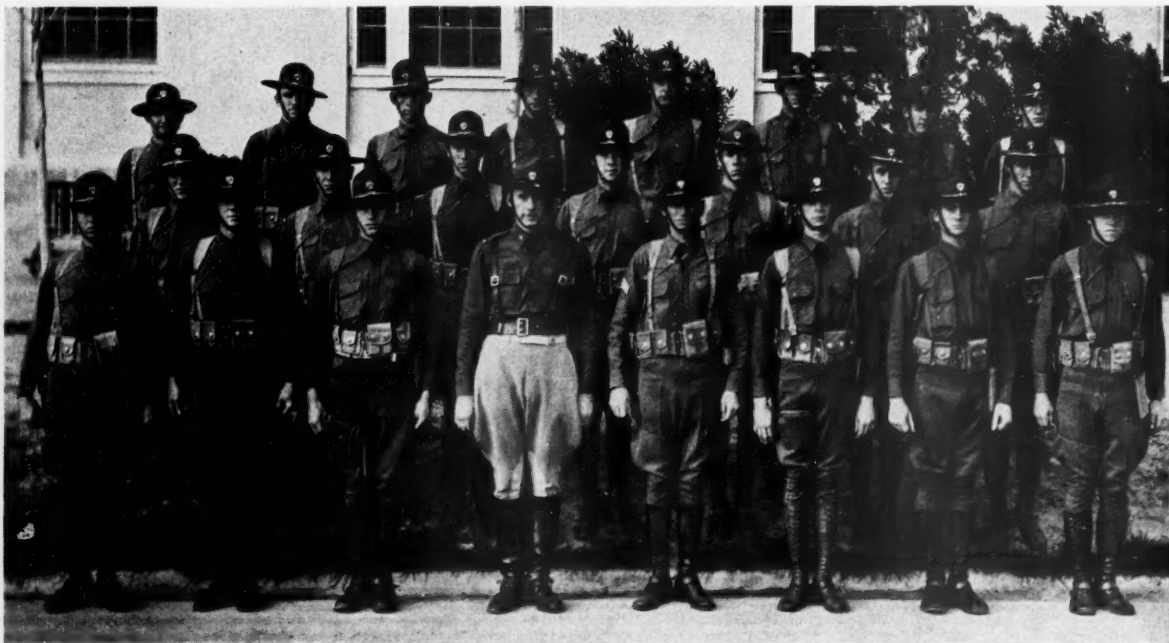
To .....

Part of enemy force was blocked by our armored cars in an attempt to move through FILLMORE PASS. These troops reported to have moved off to north where another force of REDS has suffered heavy losses attempting to move through SAN AUGUSTIN PASS which was likewise guarded by our mechanization. Small groups of RED troops were later seen moving slowly to the south. The 7th Cavalry has been ordered to round up these scattered forces and will arrive at DONA ANA at daybreak tomorrow. Continue your reconnaissance of FILLMORE PASS, select a position on the road, west of the COE RANCH and hold it in the face of any enemy attempts to escape through FILLMORE PASS.

H.

Colonel, 7th Cavalry.

While reconnoitering for a position in Fillmore Pass, which offered a campsite and a good position for a detached post, the platoons were confronted with a rather difficult tactical situation. An enemy scout car attempted



**Winning Platoon, Troop A, 7th Cavalry**

*Front Row (Left to Right):* Pvt. William H. Willingham, Pvt. Shirley S. Cook, Pvt. James W. Malone, 2d Lt. Albert B. Turner, (Commanding Platoon), Sgt. Cleason E. Long, Corp. Arthur Hicks, Pvt. Louis W. Pickett, Pvt. William S. Bryan. *Middle Row (Left to Right):* Pvt. James W. Bacon, Pvt. Frank Mastic, Pvt. 1 cl. Louie E. Holland, Pvt. Ertis E. Self, Pvt. Eugene M. Powell, Pvt. Jack Lankford, Pvt. Alpheus Waller. *Back Row (Left to Right):* Pvt. Earl A. Malone, Pvt. J. B. Shamburger, Pvt. Cecil Mead, Pvt. 1 cl. Gustav Bursjoor, Corp. Howard H. Smith, Pvt. 1 cl. Dwight O. McWhirter, Pvt. G. L. French, Pvt. Ernest L. Badgett. *Absentees:* Sgt. James Carr, Corp. Kermit D. Wooldridge, Pvt. 1 cl. Walter A. Lancaster, Pvt. William V. Russell, and Pvt. Wilber N. Goodman.

to break through the Pass. Two platoons were successful in stopping the break through, while in a third case the outcome was doubtful. The scout car crew were very loath to be captured and in spite of all instructions to the contrary made their attempts increasingly more vigorous.

The mounted patrolling was all that could be asked for and the selection of camp sites and the defense of the Pass were excellent.

Through the hospitality of the grateful Mr. Coe each platoon was able to secure sufficient wood for cooking, and a pot of hot coffee. One ingenious platoon commander even went so far as to borrow a large kettle, in which he concocted a most excellent stew. The other platoon commanders could have had the same treatment by asking for it, but failing to ask for the pot they resorted to individual cooking and fared very well.

During the night the defense of Fillmore Pass was tested, by having a mounted patrol attempt to break through on the road. This exercise was devised to see if the platoons occupied the selected position in accordance with the platoon leader's orders. In the heat of the battle the umpire in charge of this situation blew his whistle, which required all members of the platoon to remain in place. The umpire checked the positions and graded the platoon.

Control No. 6 set the stage for the next tactical situation.

### 3D SPECIAL SITUATION

Colonel, 7th Cavalry gives the following oral order to the platoon commander:

"Scattered enemy group are reported to have effected a consolidation and a force of about 200 are moving this way.

"The regiment is moving out immediately to attack this force.

"Your platoon will be the covering force.

"The first bound will be there. (Points.)

"Questions?

"Move out.

Order completed at.....

H.  
Col., 7th Cav."

All platoons were on familiar ground in this situation and took it in their stride, falling off to the right flank as a right flank guard for the regiment in its dismounted attack, when their services as a covering force was no longer needed.

The next situation developed naturally from a message from the Colonel, 7th Cavalry. The platoon was ordered to assist the dismounted attack of the regiment. At this point each platoon was issued ball ammunition and fired its musketry problem.

The musketry problem was practically a tie score for all platoons. One platoon made excellent use of cover for the approach march but left a small group of led horses exposed to enemy rifle fire. Another platoon lost its superiority of fire over the enemy by having all men cease

firing when told by the umpire that his platoon might advance by fire and movement. The advance was halted and the platoon finished the fire fight at the longer range. A third platoon made poor use of cover, was forced into the fire fight at a slightly longer range, but made up for its error by an excellent advance.

We were impressed by the fine spirit displayed by the officers and the men of the competing platoons. The tactical knowledge displayed by the junior officers and the noncommissioned officers was of the first order.

Of the winner, Second Lieutenant Albert B. Turner, Troop A, it can be said, "He never made a serious mistake and was ably supported by his platoon in every situation. He proved himself to be a platoon leader among platoon leaders."

The stiffness of the competition is attested by the final scores:

	Individual Phase	Leadership Phase		Total Score
		Marching and Camping	Tactical Situations	
2d Lt. Albert B. Turner, Troop A .....	89.77	87.60	174.70	352.07
2d Lt. Edward W. Williams, Troop E .....	89.10	84.70	164.40	338.20
2d Lt. Creighton Abrams, Troop F .....	83.51	81.20	153.90	318.61

PERCY S. HAYDON,  
Major, 7th Cavalry,  
President of the Board.

WESLEY W. YALE,  
Captain, 7th Cavalry,  
Member of the Board.

HOWELL M. ESTES, JR.,  
Second Lieutenant, 7th Cavalry,  
Member of the Board.

## 8th Cavalry

**INTRODUCTION:** The test as directed by the Chief of Cavalry, pertained to rifle troops. To permit all troops to participate in the individual phase, additional prizes were offered for the winning officer and for the winning platoon in the individual phase by the regiment.

For the combined individual and platoon phases only the rifle troops competed for the prize donated by the Chief of Cavalry.

### INDIVIDUAL PHASE—DEC. 6 AND 7

**Officers**—Fifteen lieutenants competed in the following events:

1. Pistol marksmanship mtd.
2. Pistol marksmanship dismtd.
3. Rifle marksmanship.

4. Cross country ride, one mile, 12 obstacles.
5. Schooling mounted.
6. Handiness and speed of mount (Grannis Course).
7. Swimming, 40 yards, trunks.
8. High jump, track uniform.
9. Running, 440 yards, track uniform.
10. Rope climbing, track uniform.
11. Hand grenade throwing, mtd. and dismtd.
12. Running broad jump, track uniform.

Lieutenant W. V. Martz won the combined individual phase. Prize: Silver trophy.

**Enlisted Men**—One platoon from each of the six troops, consisting of 2 sergeants, 3 corporals and 25 privates and privates, first class, competed as a group in the following events:

1. Pistol marksmanship mtd.
2. Pistol marksmanship dismounted.
3. Rifle marksmanship.
4. Hand grenade throwing, mtd. and dismtd.
5. Cross country ride, one mile, 12 obstacles.
6. Wall scaling, full field equipment.
7. Rope climbing, full field equipment.
8. Running broad jump, full field equipment.
9. Swimming, 27 man relay, trunks.
10. 2700 yard relay race, full field equipment.

The platoon entered by the M.G. Troop won the combined individual events.

Prize: Cash \$135.00 and trophy.

#### PLATOON PHASE DEC. 13TH-17TH INCLUSIVE

This consisted of a two-day reconnaissance mission. The entries from the rifle troops were composed of the same personnel that had competed in the individual phase. The officers commanding the platoons had to qualify in all the individual events for officers to retain command during this phase. The order of departure of platoons was determined by lot. Each platoon was given a warning order at 10:00 P.M. of the evening before it was scheduled to start. As a result of the drawing the platoons departed and returned in the following order:

Troop	Departure	Return
A	7:00 A.M. Dec. 13	6:00 P.M. Dec. 14
B	" Dec. 14	" Dec. 15
E	" Dec. 15	" Dec. 16
F	" Dec. 16	" Dec. 17

The mission caused each platoon to march via Hueco Tanks Road to Cerro Alto Mt. Pass (See Sketch), bivouac at Cerro Alto Mt. Pass, observe to the east of Hueco Mts. before dark the first day and again at daylight the next morning, march via Nations Salt Well to



**Winning Platoon, Troop B, 8th Cavalry.**

*First Row (left to right):* Sgt. John Rogers, 2d Lieut. Roy W. Cole, Jr., Sgt. Teofil Marynick. *Second Row (left to right):* Corp. George H. Hand, Pvt. 1 cl. Edward Mericle, Pvt. Willie G. Akin, Pvt. Herman Robson, Corp. John B. Ketchum, Pvt. Clark F. Gabler, Pvt. 1 cl. Roland Z. Dennis, Corp. Cyril A. Barnes. *Third row (left to right):* Pvt. Harry De Rose, Jr., Pvt. 1 cl. Harry G. Newpher, Jr., Pvt. 1 cl. Lee Funderburg, Jr., Pvt. Major A. Blankenship, Pvt. 1 cl. Alvin L. Skinner, Pvt. Lester L. McKinzie, Pvt. 1 cl. Lawrence L. Mayle, Pvt. 1 cl. Bert Parkhill. *Fourth Row (left to right):* Pvt. Otus Grizzard, Pvt. John E. Lindsey, Pvt. 1 cl. Herbert P. Tiller, Pvt. Joe M. Williams, Pvt. Rush Locke, Pvt. 1 cl. Leo Novak. *Fifth Row (left to right):* Pvt. 1 cl. James A. Morgan, Pvt. Leslie R. Lewis, Pvt. John G. Fisher.

Newman to receive additional orders and then to Franklin Mts. in the vicinity of Castner Range.

The tactical situation was continuous for two days. During the march each platoon received an attack by airplane and met hostile armored reconnaissance vehicles; the platoons were blocked on the axis of march by a strong hostile motorized force in position on terrain which required platoon commanders to avoid the enemy position and reconnoiter its rear for the strength of the opposition; the platoons met small dismounted resistance near the west entrance to Cerro Alto Mt. Pass and had to attack to gain identifications and force an entrance to the pass; the platoon leaders were required to select a bivouac in Cerro Alto Mt. Pass, reconnoiter to the east of Hueco Mts. at dusk of the first day and at daylight of the second day, provide for security during the night and so dispose the platoons as to deny any hostile passage through the pass to the west during the night; the platoons encountered a disabled but guarded personnel carrier which had to be attacked and captured; the platoons rejoined the 8th Cavalry, reinforced, just prior to a regimental dismounted attack, to drive hostile cavalry into Franklin Mt. and destroy it, and took part in the approach march, attack (ball ammunition), capture of the hostile position and reorganization. At the completion of the combat phase the tactical situation ceased and the platoons returned to Ft. Bliss for a final examination of the condition of men, animals and equipment.

A conservative estimate made by the control judges, places the distance travelled by the main bodies of each platoon at about 75 miles in the two days.

The 1st Platoon, Troop B, 2d Lt. Roy W. Cole, Commanding, won the combined individual and collective phases. The award of the money and plate donated by the Chief of Cavalry is to be made by the Chief of Cavalry after approval of the recommendations of the 8th Cavalry Board of Officers.

### **Impressions of the 8th Cavalry Leadership Test** *By Second Lieutenant Roy W. Cole, Jr. Tr. B, 8th Cavalry*

Ten o'clock in the evening, and a Texas norther roaring down from the snow capped Sacramentoes—the startling jangle of a telephone, and a terse command, "Move out." The suspense was over at last, for the First Platoon, Troop "B," had been drawn for a confidential mission. Needless to say it was with excitement and anticipation that I reported to receive my warning order, and my feelings were justified when I was directed to lead my platoon on an extended reconnaissance mission leaving Fort Bliss at 7:00 the following morning. (Dec. 14, 1937.)

#### **CONFIDENTIAL**

**General Situation.** The I Blue Cavalry Corps, having advanced north into enemy territory, is halted along an east and west line through FORT BLISS, screening the concentration of Army elements to the south.

**Special Situation (Blue).** The 8th Cavalry, the right flank regiment of the I Cavalry Corps, is in bivouac at

FORT BLISS. Active reconnaissance is being maintained by this regiment to the east and northeast.

At 10:00 AM Lieutenant Cole, commanding the 1st Platoon, Troop B, reports to S-3 at Regimental Headquarters (Represented by Umpire No. 1). He is given the following verbal instructions:

"Your platoon will march on a reconnaissance and security mission at 7:00 AM tomorrow. You will be gone about two days. Have issued the necessary ammunition (blank), grain and rations, and report at 6:30 AM tomorrow for orders."

Three months of planning and two weeks of intensive preparation were behind me and that dream of every junior officer—an independent command—was ahead.

Immediately after receiving my warning order, I notified Sergeant John Rogers, my second in command, gave him the situation as far as I knew it, and directed him to have the cooks serve breakfast at 4:30 A.M. and to have our emergency rations ready for issue. I next contacted Sergeant Teofil Marynick, my Stable Sergeant (and incidentally my Sergeant File closer for the test) and told him to have the platoon's horses fed at 4:30 A.M. I had made a minute check of my horses at afternoon watercall, and would repeat that inspection prior to the departure of the platoon. With my preliminary instructions thus complete, I checked my own equipment and then attempted to sleep as I had a strong feeling, amply justified in the light of subsequent events, that I would get no more during the ensuing forty-eight hours.

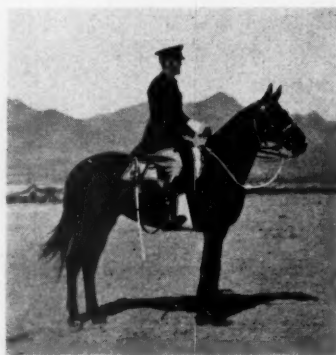
Four-thirty arrived at last, and the time until 6:30 A.M., when I was to report to the regimental commander was taken up by supervising with Sergeant Rogers the feeding of the men, drawing rations, adjusting of equipment, and the various familiar details peculiar to a platoon's departure on an extended mission.

At 6:30 AM, I reported as directed and was given a letter of instructions:

Hq 8th Cav.  
Ft Bliss, Texas.  
14 December, 1937.  
6:30 AM

**Subject:** Reconnaissance.

**To:** Lieut Cole.



*Second Lieutenant Roy W. Cole, Jr., on Rosita.*

1. Our midnight air patrol reported enemy activity in the region of CERRO ALTO PASS, and HUECO TANKS, but was driven off before further details could be observed.

Our reconnaissance Detachment No. 1, operating east along the CARLSBAD HIGHWAY was forced west of the HUECO MOUNTAINS yesterday afternoon by a mechanized-motorized force about the size of a small squadron. At 6:00 AM today, our detachment was at GASOLINE FILLING STATION and the enemy in position on the hills about 3 miles northeast thereof (See Map attached).

Our Scout Car Platoon was driven in from the vicinity of NATIONS EAST WELL last night by enemy mechanized units, with a loss of 2 cars.

Our Reconnaissance Detachment No. 2 advancing north along the NEWMAN-OROGRADE ROAD had encountered and driven back several small enemy cavalry patrols, and is now at NEWMAN.

2. This regiment will remain at FORT BLISS until tomorrow.

#### CONFIDENTIAL

3. Your platoon will march at 7:00 AM today. Reconnoiter the HUECO TANKS ROAD TO CERRO

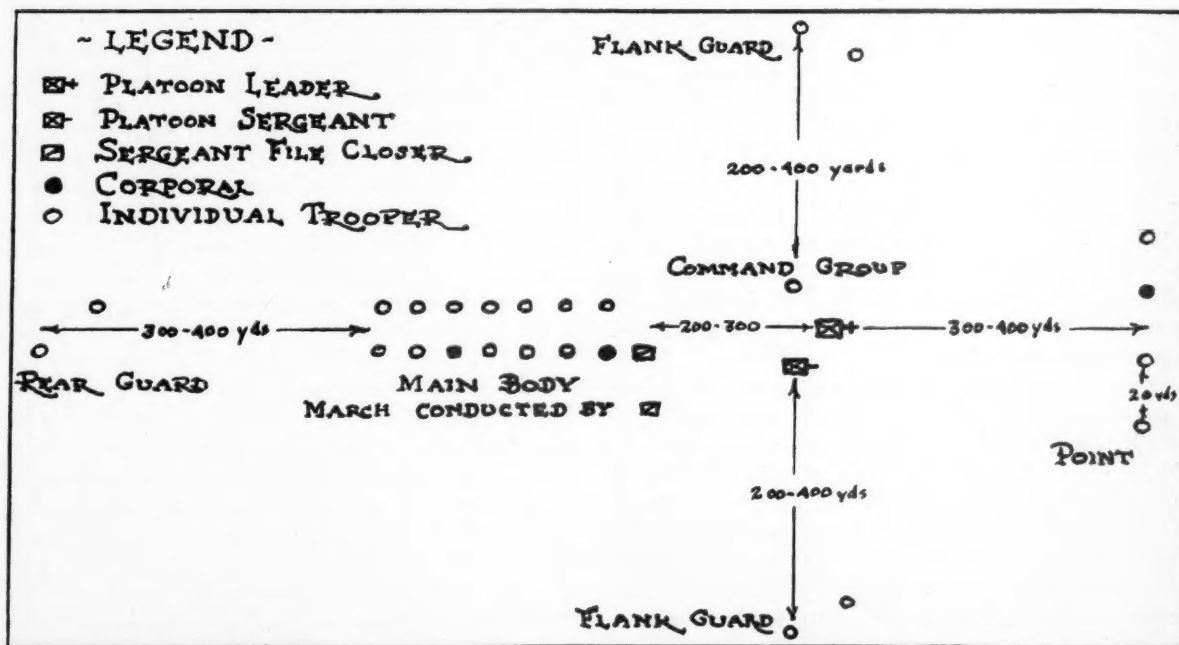
Identification are desired. Act aggressively. Report the presence and actions of any enemy force of sufficient size to be dangerous to this command.

4. Messages to me at FORT BLISS until 7:00 AM tomorrow. Thence, all messages to NEWMAN.

(Signed) Innis P. Swift,  
(Typed) INNIS P. SWIFT,  
Colonel, 8th Cavalry,  
Commanding.

After studying the requirements and my maps, I assembled my non-commissioned officers, explained the situation to them; and directed the squad leaders to familiarize their men with our orders and missions. At 6:45 AM the platoon was formed and I issued my march order, including a review of the situation, orders for the march formation, rate of march, security, second in command, first objective, assembly point, etc., and promptly at 7 o'clock the platoon moved out. No outpost line was indicated, so the march formation, as depicted in the accompanying diagram, was taken up upon leaving the stables.

The first phase of the test was relatively uneventful, the only action being a simulated airplane attack and the reconnaissance of a ranch. However, after reaching Con-



ALTO PASS. Investigate any enemy concentrations in the vicinity of HUECO TANKS AND CERRO ALTO PASS, and en route thereto, in the area indicated on your map. From the heights of the pass, observe carefully this afternoon for any indications of enemy activity in the valley to the east thereof. Remain in observation in the pass until daylight tomorrow and deny passage through same to any enemy troops advancing from the east. Return early tomorrow via NATIONS SALT WELL to NEWMAN, where additional orders will reach you.

trol Point No. 2, the platoons training was given a severe test, for almost immediately the point signalled "armored car attack." It was apparent that the attack was along the axis of march, so upon signal, one man from the point, one from the command group, each No. 2 and No. 4 of each second set of fours in the main body, and one man from the rear guard, passed his reins to an adjacent rider, and threw himself off his horse behind a hummock near the road. The terrain, with its excellent cover, afforded ample protection for the dismounted men, while the

platoon deployed at a gallop as far from the road as time permitted. It was an easy matter for the concealed troopers to toss a series of fragmentation grenades onto the road as the two scout cars approached. By these tactics, the platoon was given credit for destroying one of the cars.

At the intersection of NATIONS EAST WELL and HUECO TANKS roads a four man patrol was sent out with the mission of reconnoitering the HUECO TANKS roads as far as ESCONTRIA RANCH, where it was to rejoin the platoon. As advance information intimated that large enemy forces might be expected anywhere south of this road, it was believed that four men operating by stealth would have a better chance of getting the required information of the enemy than would the main body. Also, whereas the main body was not large enough to force a passage against a strong defense, it was of sufficient strength to stir up a determined resistance which might well bring on serious consequences. This decision proved later to be sound. The platoon less patrol marched on Escontria Ranch (Control Point No. 3) via Nations East Well (where the platoon watered). Outside of continuous and fatiguing reconnaissance, the ensuing 15 miles were uneventful. Then, when lulled to a sense of false security, the platoon's equanimity was rudely shattered by scattered rifle fire coming from the base of the huge mass of rocks known as the Hueco Tanks. After a moment of indecision, during which time the point went into dismounted action, the platoon deployed in two waves and charged across the 400 yards of level ground to the rocks. When within ten yards of the rocks, a wire fence appeared which prohibited the charge from proceeding mounted. However, with the fine initiative evidenced during the entire test, and with incredible rapidity, the platoon dismounted without command, passed its horses to ready horseholders, and charged the remaining ten yards on foot. The meagre results of all the commotion was the capture of an enemy cossack post which had served its purpose nobly.

At 1:30 PM after a careful reconnaissance, the platoon watered its horses at Escontria Ranch, and then moved south two hundred yards into good cover, where the horses were fed one-third of their oat ration. While the men were eating a frugal and hasty meal Private Robson appeared and said that he was the only survivor of Patrol No. 1. He reported rather hazily that the patrol had been fired on by at least ten machine guns holding a pass along the Hueco Tanks Road approximately 12 miles from Control Point No. 2, and that all he could do was to retrace his route and follow the main body, via Nations East Well and report. After studying Pvt. Robson's report carefully, and considering time and space factors, it was realized that he could not possibly have reached the point indicated, which was within 3 miles of the platoon's present position, on the Hueco Tanks Road. Deeming this information insufficient and inaccurate, a second four men patrol was sent out with instructions to proceed SW along the Hueco Tanks Road and to contact the enemy rear. This patrol was directed to rejoin the platoon at its

objective for the night—the Eastern entrance of the Cerro Alto Pass.

The march was resumed at 2:00 PM and the platoon began the tortuous four mile ascent of the pass. By 4:00 PM the platoon had gained its objective, after a severe climb over the roughest kind of mountain trails, and was in observation of the valley to the east. Before dark, outpost positions were selected, the pass organized for night defense, and the horses were groomed, watered and fed another third of their ration.

Patrol No 2 reported at 8:00 PM, after travelling some 18 miles more than the main body. The Patrol leader reported that his patrol had gained the enemy rear as required, and he rendered an accurate report of the strength and composition of the enemy forces, completely justifying any doubt as to the accuracy of Pvt. Robson's earlier report. A message containing this information was dispatched to the Regimental Commander as required, together with the fact that the patrol had been in observation at the pass during the afternoon and would hold the pass until 6:00 AM the morning of Dec. 15th.

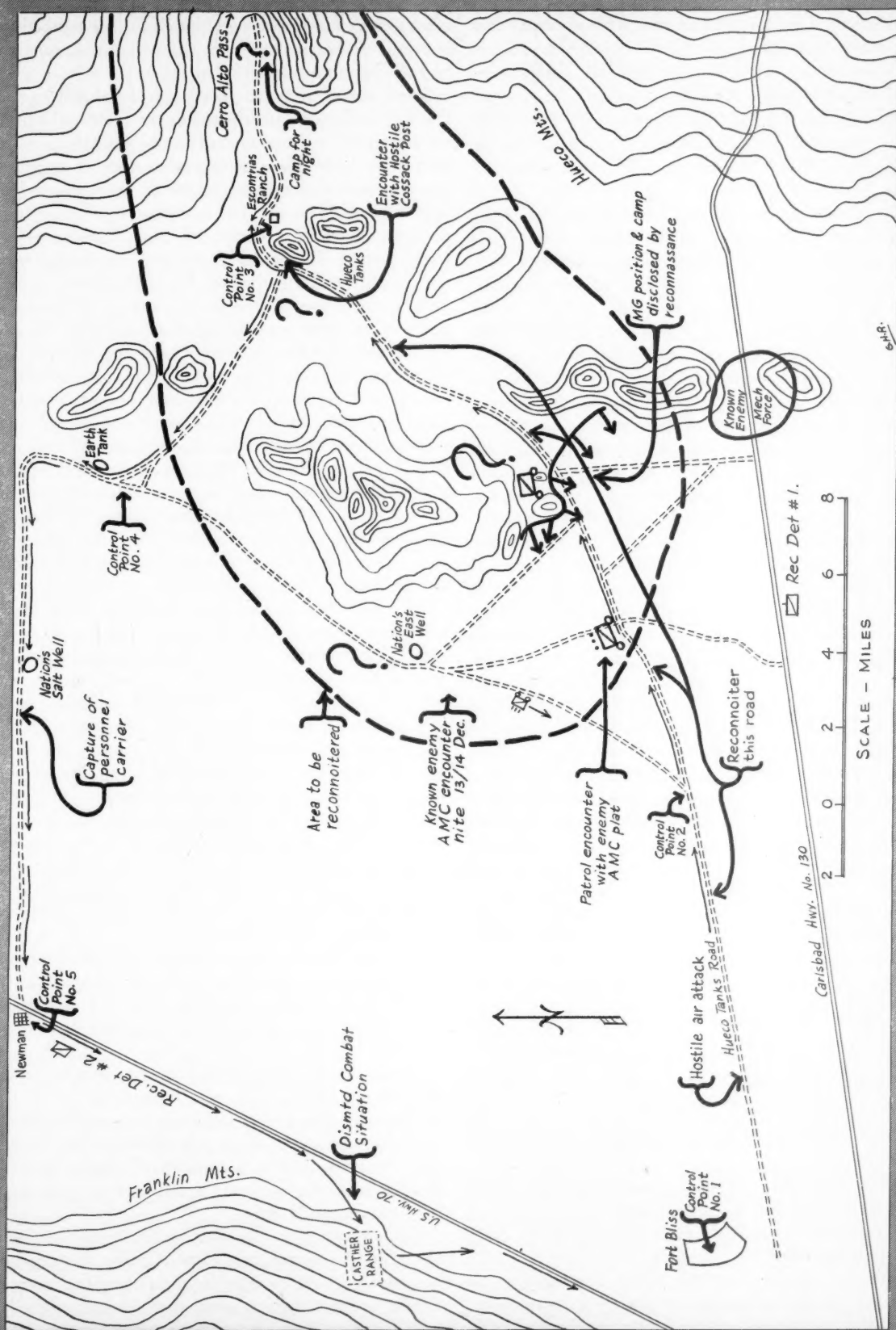
The platoon spent an uncomfortable night in its bivouac 6,000 feet up in the Hueco Mountains, the water in the canteens freezing and the men likewise. Fourty-three found the platoon eating the last of their rations, and shivering around dying camp fires until the dawn trail was visible. All men and horses were in excellent condition despite the fact that all had travelled 40 to 55 miles on the previous day.

Control Point No. 4 was reached without trouble or delay, and after watering once more, the platoon marched on Nations Salt Well. The ranch at the well was reconnoitered as follows: The point halted under cover some 600 yards out while the platoon leader and point commander observed through their glasses. All seemed clear, so the point was ordered to proceed at a gallop under the protection of the fire of the platoon which had been placed into dismounted action.

When past the ranch about a mile the point reported seeing an enemy truck. Twelve men with machine guns debouched, as if by magic and went into action. The point hit the ground, a combined attack was indicated, and the main body pushed its attack home with cohesion and vigor. The prisoners were disarmed and questioned, identifications were secured, a message prepared, the arms and truck demolished (simulated), and the platoon continued on its mission.

Control Point No. 5 was reached at 12:40 PM and after a half hours rest, during which time the horses were rubbed down and watered, the platoon began the last phase of its mission. When within 6 miles of Fort Bliss, a messenger met the point, with instructions for the Platoon Leader to report to his Troop Commander, represented by the umpire at this point.

"Hostile cavalry, with some artillery, has retired to those hills and is in a hastily prepared defensive position, whose flanks have been located by our patrols in those areas (indicating flags). Long range artillery fire and



Platoon Phase, Leadership Tests, 8th Cavalry

machine gun fire stopped our mounted advance. No other enemy is in the area HUECO MOUNTAINS—NEWMAN — FRANKLIN MOUNTAINS — CARLSBAD HIGHWAY.

"The 8th Cavalry, less detachments, with Battery B, 82d FA attached, attacks, dismounted, squadrons abreast at 4:00 PM to drive the enemy into the mountains and destroy him.

"Our troop is on the right of the regiment. The light machine gun platoon supports the attack of the troop under my control. The 2d Platoon is on your left.

"Your platoon will advance on my order, on the right of the troop, protect the right flank of the regiment, seize that ridge (indicating flags about 800 yards to the right front) and await further instructions. It is now 3:40 PM (about 20 minutes before attack time).

"Any questions?"

Orders were given whereby the platoon, as a combat patrol of a regiment, fired a combat problem involving the use of ball ammunition. After the firing, the platoon advanced, seized the captured ground, and reorganized it for a counter attack. On the completion of this phase the participation of the platoon in the Cavalry Leadership Test for Small Units, except for an inspection of men and animals upon the return to Fort Bliss, was over.

In conclusion, aside from the inestimable value of having an independent command to use or abuse according to one's own ability, the outstanding feature, in this platoon leader's opinion, was the cheerful and gallant manner in which the horses and men met every effort required of them. The animals, conditioned only two weeks due to the participation of regimental personnel in the PROPOSED Infantry Division, courageously met a gruelling test of between 80 and 100 miles, and of the 28 horses which left Fort Bliss, all returned, and showed no ill effects the next morning in spite of their severe work. Of the enlisted men in the platoon, no more need be said than if ever it is my duty to lead men in combat, may it be my good fortune to have such men as these by my side to sustain me and to make my leadership worthy of their devotion.

✓ ✓ ✓

### Comments on the 8th Cavalry Leadership Test

*By Lieutenant Ralph E. Haines, Jr., 8th Cavalry*

SCENE: The annual Thanksgiving dinner at the Eighth Cavalry Bachelor Officers' Mess.

TIME: Four days before the proposed cavalry leadership test.

SPEAKER: The regimental commander, Colonel I. P. Seift (leaning against the mantelpiece).

"Gentlemen, it is only the mediocre officer in the Army who does not welcome competition."

This terse statement exploded like a bombshell on the consciousness of every member of the mess and temporarily stilled the frivolous holiday banter. It remained in the back of every lieutenant's head and lent moral encourage-

ment to his efforts to prepare himself for the competition at hand. It became, in fact, the very keynote of the Eighth Cavalry Leadership Test.

Seven officers and over two hundred enlisted men of the Eighth Cavalry participated in the Infantry Division maneuvers in San Antonio until two weeks before the date of the test. The platoons were therefore not organized nor the platoon commanders named until much later than normal. This resulted in a frenzy of last minute preparations, causing officers and men to give up their week-ends and Wednesday afternoons. The weather man, realizing full well that the time was so short that not even one day's training could be forgone, gave a sarcastic twist to the whole affair by inflicting a span of raw, wet days on the troops for their preliminary training. Officers and men found that they were woefully out of shape. Many of them had not ridden for three months and all of them needed to train for the specialized events of the individual phase. A program for clipping, shoeing, and conditioning the horses to be drawn up immediately in view of the fact that these matters were partially neglected during the Infantry Division maneuvers due to the skeletonized available personnel. All these handicaps demanded that each troop mobilize all its energies and men in an effort to make a creditable showing.

The Individual Phase: The individual phase of the leadership test was held on December 6th and 7th. It was divided into two parts, one for officers and one for enlisted men. All the lieutenants in the regiment (seventeen in all) were required to enter the officer's individual phase, in the capacity of an actual or alternate platoon leader. The object of this phase was "to demonstrate the endurance, courage, and ability of each officer and the development and training of his mount" in a series of events approximating possible physical requirements in actual service. There were twelve different events: namely, schooling mounted, handiness and speed of mount, cross country riding, hand grenades, pistol mounted, pistol dismounted, rifle, swimming, high jumping, broad jumping, rope climbing, and running.

The schooling course was held on a regularly marked twenty by sixty meter ring. It included a series of prescribed movements at the walk, slow trot, and gallop. Lt. Cole won this event with a practically flawless performance.

Handiness and speed of mount were demonstrated on the grannis course. The same horses had to be used throughout by each rider in all the mounted events and, since the horses were of the hunter rather than the polo pony type, many officers encountered trouble here. Lt. O'Brien made the best time, spinning around the course in highly approved style.

The cross country ride was a mile course with twelve obstacles. A fourteen mile an hour gallop was prescribed and penalties were awarded for completing the course too rapidly or too slowly in addition to those for refusals at any obstacle. Four officers made perfect scores on this event.

Officers were required to throw hand grenades from the prone position into a shell crater three yards in diameter and thirty-five yards distant. They were also required to gallop by an escort wagon representing a scout car ten yards distant and throw two hand grenades into it. Throwing hand grenades is a novel experience to most cavalymen and the contestants experimented a great deal beforehand trying to determine the approved solution. Three lieutenants made perfect scores on this event.

The mounted pistol course consisted of one overhead target, two to the right front, and one to the left front.

The dismounted pistol event consisted of firing five rounds in fifteen seconds at an L target at twenty-five yards. The entire seventeen officers were put on the firing line at one time. Natural nervousness over the announced ruling to allow no alibi runs caused the score to be lower than otherwise.

The contestants fired the rifle from the two hundred yard point—standing and sitting. Lt. Davis won this event with a perfect score.

The swimming event consisted of a forty yard race, free style—two lengths of the Army "Y" pool. All the contestants proved to be better than average swimmers with Lt. Cole coping the event in excellent time.

The high jump was run according to regular track rules with the bar going up two inches at a time. The contestants appeared in weird track uniforms—everything from long drawers on up. Lts. Paul, Alger, Walker, and Martz fought it out, Lt. Martz finally winning with a jump of five feet, three inches.

The broad jump followed immediately on the heels of the high jump. Apparently the officers had used up so much energy in the high jump that they were in poor condition for further exertion. About half the contestants pulled or strained a thigh muscle in the broad jump and consequently did not take full advantage of the three jumps allowed. Lt. Martz maintained his reputation as a leaping gazelle placing one again.

The rope climb was a fifteen foot climb against time—no holds barred. The muckers came into their own here and went up the rope hand over hand in excellent times.

The last event was the 440 yard dash—probably the hardest race there is to run. Few of the contestants knew much about running it, but none of them lacked determination. Taped legs and perceptible limps were very much in evidence as they lined up at the starting point in successive heats. Nevertheless, they all went away on the gun in a racing start and somehow or other kept muddling through until they crossed the finish line. Cries of "Pump your knees" and "Give her the gun" were heard as the contestants wobbled down the home stretch gasping for breath. Lt. Martz again finished first, thus making a clean sweep of the track events. He also was determined the winner of the entire individual phase and was presented with a silver trophy. Lts. Cole, Palmer, and Walker followed him in that order.

All six troops of the regiment entered a platoon in the individual phase for enlisted men. Each man in the pla-

toon was required to enter a series of ten events: namely, cross country riding, hand grenades, pistol mounted, pistol dismounted, rifle, swimming, broad jumping, rope climbing, running, and wall scaling. To simulate actual service conditions they were required to perform all events except the swimming with full field equipment and arms. Their events were practically identical with those of the officers except that they were generally made a little easier.

The running consisted of a spectacular 2,700 yard relay race held on the parade ground between barracks and the officers' quarters. This parade ground is broken up by several streets and there are also two chain fences over which the men had to jump. The troop guidons were passed from man to man as the batons in the race.

The wall scaling was another unique event held in the bottom of the Seventh Cavalry swimming pool. The platoons were required to scale the twelve foot side of the pool using nothing except regular field equipment. The winning platoon got all twenty-seven men up the wall in the remarkable time of one minute and twelve seconds.

The individual phase results were duly tabulated, the officers' efforts being given a coefficient of five per cent and the men's efforts one of twenty per cent. Machine Gun Troop was declared the winner and was presented with a handsome regimental trophy and \$135.00 in cash. The rifle troops finished in the order "B," "A," "F," "E"; they were the only platoons eligible to compete in the second phase of the test by a directive from the chief of cavalry.

The Collective Phase: Six days were allowed after the completion of the leadership phase for the platoons to polish up on their tactical work. Platoons were required to enter absolutely the same horses and men in the collective phase as in the individual phase. This caused the platoon leaders no small amount of worry because of horses going lame, men breaking in the hospital, etc. As it turned out two platoons entered the collective phase with all twenty-eight men and the other two platoons with only twenty-seven.

The order of departure for the collective phase was determined by lot with the platoons leaving on successive days in the order "A," "B," "E," "F." Each platoon was given a warning order at 10:00 PM of the evening before it was scheduled to start.

The mission assigned caused each platoon to march via Hueco Tanks Road to Cerro Alto Pass; bivouac at Cerro Alto Pass; observe to the east of Hueco Mts. early the next morning; march via Nations Salt Well to Newman and then to Ft. Bliss via Castner Range.

The tactical situation was continuous for two days. During the march the platoon received an airplane attack and met hostile armored reconnaissance vehicles; the platoon was blocked on its axis of march by a strong hostile dismounted force on terrain which required the platoon commander to go around the enemy position and reconnoiter for the strength of the opposition; the platoon leader was forced to select a bivouac in Cerro Alto Mt. pass, reconnoiter to the east of the Hueco Mts. at dusk of the

first day and again in the morning, provide for security during the night and so place his detachment as to deny any hostile passage through the pass to the west during the night; the platoon encountered a disabled hostile personnel carrier transporting twelve enemy and, because of its mission, had to attack and capture some of the hostile group; the platoon had to reconnoiter several ranch houses and a small village; the platoon rejoined its regiment just prior to a dismounted regimental attack and took part in the attack. At the completion of the combat phase the tactical situation ceased and the platoons returned to Fort Bliss for a final examination of the condition of men, animals, and equipment.

Lt. Walker's platoon went out on a cold, rainy morning. He ran into interlocking bands of enemy machine gun fire at the pass southeast of Nation's East Well, and attempted to avoid them by scaling the mountains to the south. He dismounted his platoon and led his horses seven hundred feet up the side of a mountain. During this maneuver one horse did a complete backward somersault and strangely enough landed on its feet. When Lt. Walker reached the top he discovered that the mountain sheered off in an almost vertical precipice on the far side, and he disconsolately retraced his footsteps. He reached the appointed bivouac area in the Cerro Alto pass about eight-thirty that evening, winding his way up the pass in inky darkness. He ran into rain, sleet, snow, and below freezing weather. When the problem was called off for the evening he attempted to build fires, but the scant available firewood was so wet that it only smoldered. His men were too cold to attempt to heat up their reserve ration and stolidly munched on their semi-sweetened chocolate bars with their blankets drawn tightly around them. Lt. Walker failed to locate the water tank up in the pass and many of his men ate snow to quench the thirst induced by the chocolate bars. Lt. Walker himself burnt the sole completely out of one of his boots standing on a smoldering log.

Because of the physical beating that his men and horses had taken Lt. Walker proceeded very slowly on his mission the following day and did not get to Fort Bliss until after nightfall. He was even forced to forego the last phase of the problem, namely, the combat exercise, until the third day.

The platoons under Lts. Cole, Alger, and Haines did not experience the same difficult weather conditions as that under Lt. Walker. However, it was below freezing up in the Cerro Alto pass all four nights of the competition, and many officers and men had holes burned in their blankets from huddling in Indian style too closely over the fires.

Examples of sheer nerve among the men was numerous. One soldier sprained his ankle very badly, another broke his finger, and still another had a blank shell discharged into his forearm at close range. All continued on the test displaying great fortitude under intense physical pain.

The horses too did nobly despite an abbreviated conditioning period. Over half the animals in each platoon were young horses, turned to duty in the last year after undergoing systematic remount training under the direction of Major W. B. Bradford. Nevertheless, there was not a lame horse in the entire four platoons on their return to Fort Bliss. They carried their riders between eighty-five and a hundred and ten miles in two days. In addition, they did a great deal of galloping due to the tactical conditions imposed. The terrain was difficult, varying from deep sand on the mesa to a bed of sharp pointed rocks on the floor of the Cerro Alto canyon. The horses were fed no long forage and a maximum of eight pounds of grain the two days they were out. "F" troop's horses came in the last twelve miles at an eight and a half mile an hour rate because of the necessity of reaching Castner Range to fire the combat problem before sun-down.

The spirit and pep which the men put into the combat exercise, advancing by infiltration for about five hundred yards could not fail to impress deeply anyone who witnessed it. The men had had practically no sleep the previous night and were out on their feet. Nevertheless, they zigzagged through the deep sand at full speed and hit the ground hard behind cover of the mesquite bushes. More than one of them got sick at his stomach from the exertion.

The umpires too did a grand job. Several of them had to ride as much as a hundred and forty-five miles in the four days of the test. Many times they had to ride miles out of their way because of faulty decisions made by platoon leaders, yet they never became impatient or irritated at the turn of events.

In the collective phase of the leadership test, which was given a weight of seventy-five per cent, the troops finished in the order "F," "B," "E," "A." When the results of the individual and collective phases were consolidated, "B" Troop was declared the winner of the 8th Cavalry leadership test for small units, with "F," "E," and "A" troops following in the order.

The leadership test was a distinct success in every way. On a large post the size of Fort Bliss, the lieutenants do little but carry out the tactical decisions of the regimental, brigade, and division commanders. The leadership test provided them with a welcome opportunity to use their own judgment and initiative. The men in ranks, who have only a nebulous idea at best of what transpires in most "jaw-bone wars," gained first hand contact with tactical principles and decisions. They responded to this contact with a newly awakened interest that was highly gratifying to all concerned.

In conclusion, we believe that the 1937 platoon leadership test has proved that the men and animals of the regiment are made of stern stuff and fully prepared for the emergencies of actual combat. The test is now but a hazy memory, however, as the lieutenants of the Eighth Cavalry turn with great anticipation to preparation for the annual officers' endurance ride.

# The Naval War College

By Lieutenant Colonel Jack W. Heard, 1st Cavalry

In speaking of the Naval War College the old saying that "it is an ill wind that blows no one good" fits into the picture because actually it was the infamous "March to the Sea" in 1865 which laid the foundations of this great school.

At that time Lieutenant Stephen B. Luce of the Navy, in command of the Monitor *Pontiac*, conferred with General Sherman at Savannah in regard to protecting the Federal Army as it crossed the river on its turn to the north along the coast. General Sherman commented on the fact that for three years the Navy had been bombarding Charleston without appreciable results. He stated that he intended to capture Columbia and so cut Charleston's line of supply and that then Charleston would fall at once to the Navy. This is just what happened and it bore home to Lieutenant Luce the fact that in the art of war there are strategic principles which apply to both land and sea, and that the Navy needed a higher school of instruction where the art of war could be studied in its broader aspects. The development of this thought in later years resulted in the establishment of the Naval War College.

Luce's Civil War experiences and his study of other military and naval campaigns impressed him with the fact that battles had frequently been fought involving great loss of life without any appreciable influence on the issues of a campaign and that many opportunities for decisive victory had been overlooked. Leaders of unquestioned courage had failed through faulty strategic and tactical conceptions. He had great difficulty in arousing any interest in "a post graduate course for the study of the science of war." The Navy as a whole was hostile to the idea. However, finally, in 1884, he succeeded in having the Secretary of the Navy—W. E. Chandler—appoint a board, consisting of himself—now a Commodore—Commander W. T. Sampson and Lt. Comdr. C. F. Goodrich, to consider the question of advanced training. As a result of the board's report the Navy Department, through General Order No. 325 of October 6, 1884, established the Naval War College in the old poorhouse at Newport, Rhode Island. Admiral Luce was designated as president.

For ten years the College barely existed and only did so because of the untiring and devoted efforts of two so-called cranks—Capt. McCarty Little and the great naval writer, Admiral A. T. Mahan.<sup>1</sup> They were associated for a time with Capt. Tasker A. Bliss, later Chief of Staff of the Army.

As a matter of fact, from the foundation of the College

a succession of Army and Marine Corps officers have aided in its program.

As stated, the College did not have the support of the Navy. Sea duty was considered all-important and theory was belittled. It was hard to get even a few officers to take the short courses that lasted for only a few months. Even in 1931, when I first attended the College, although there were some eighty (80) students in the two classes and a staff of twenty-seven (27), there was still a lack of appreciation among some line officers as to the importance of taking the course. This situation does not exist today.

The courses at first lasted from one to four months and consisted of Summer Conferences. The first full year's course and the first diplomas came in 1912.

A Correspondence Course was started in 1914 and in 1923 the Junior Class, composed of officers of at least six years commissioned service, came into being. The Advance Course started functioning in 1934.

The *Mission* of the Naval War College is "To further an understanding of the fundamental considerations involved in the successful conduct of war, in order that officers may be prepared for higher command."<sup>2</sup>

The College assumes the possession of technical skill and knowledge commensurate with the rank of the student.

The College courses, when developed by individual application, are designed to "advance the student in professional knowledge, to strengthen his judgment and to provide a basis for the successful application of reasoning ability to the solution of military problems.

"For purposes of administration and decentralization of the work, there are two instructional departments—Operations, which is concerned with strategy and tactics; and Intelligence, which is concerned with economics and national policy, international law, preparation of studies on strategic areas, and ordnance research." Or words to that effect.

In *Operations* the keystone of the several courses is the Estimate of the Situation and the resulting Formulation of Plans and Orders. "The student is required to apply the accepted principles of reasoning to assumed strategic and tactical situations and then to draw up plans and to formulate orders designed to translate the military decision into effective action. A selected solution of the strategic problem under consideration is then played as a chart maneuver with every member of the class participating in a command or staff capacity. Charts of actual areas are employed, realistic weather and other features are

<sup>1</sup>The author of *Influence of Sea Power on History*; a book which has commanded deep respect among European statesmen and naval circles.

<sup>2</sup>The Mission and Organization of the U. S. Naval War College, 1936-1937.

injected to the maximum extent possible under artificial conditions, and the moves are based upon information reaching the commanders to the same extent that it would in actual campaign."

A tactical situation may result from the strategic game or may be set up to stress certain principles. Then the maneuver is conducted on the game board with its elaborate equipment, its miniatures of actual ships, provisions for communications, scoring of gun fire and the inflicting of damage, all based upon the latest official results and methods prevailing in the Fleet. Here the moves follow more rapidly and the student is impressed with visual demonstrations of the value of accurate thinking.

This game board—a linoleum-covered floor of some 2,500 square feet—is a most remarkable development. It represents the sea, is measured off in 1,000 yard squares, and battles fought upon it are realistic as to every vessel of opposing forces, meteorological and sea conditions, etc. The results obtained by gun, torpedo, and bomb fire are entirely dependent on the student's knowledge of gunnery, the capabilities of his own and enemy vessels, and seamanship. Effects are calculated on actual characteristics of represented foreign vessels.

"After the student has had the opportunity, through formal estimate, to develop his reasoning power to an advanced stage, he is given a series of Quick Decision Problems, the solution of which requires instant decision and translation into effective action."

Joint operations and other kindred instruction is also taken up by the Department of Operations.

In the Intelligence Department it is recognized that in spite of the passage of time and the consequent changes in weapons and methods, the fundamentals remain unchanged.

The course in international law is made even more valuable by the lectures and discussions of Professor George C. Wilson of Harvard who has been an Associate at the War College since 1902. And speaking of lectures, one of the high lights of the instruction given in this outstanding institution of learning is the series of talks on the foreign policies of the United States, of the condition of affairs within important foreign nations, their relations with each other and with the United States, and on the subject of economics, by eminent authorities such as

Dr. T. H. Healy, Dean of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University; Prof. Hopper of Harvard; Mr. Norman Armour, our Minister to Canada; Prof. Williams, Deputy Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and many other internationally known figures of this and other countries.

The College provides four courses: The Correspondence Courses teach strategy, tactics and international law and are designed to prepare officers for the resident courses.

The Junior Course conducts studies of minor operations of war. Greater stress is placed on tactics than on strategy. It also gives instruction in international law by means of individual solutions of hypothetical situations.

"The Senior Course parallels the Junior Course except that the field of strategy and tactics is greatly expanded; the student being exercised in handling and maintaining large fleets over extended theatres of war and in fleet engagements. National policy; elementary statecraft and international relations, as foundations of naval strategy; replace strategy and tactics as the subjects of individual thesis writing.

"Lectures, demonstrative exercises, prescribed reading, study of official publications, critiques and conferences provide background and guidance for both classes. Although in the short time available a complete course in naval history is impossible, officers are given a background in naval history, naval strategy, and the strategic lessons to be learned from military history, which, with independent reading, gives them a remarkably clear understanding and visual picture of naval operations of the past, especially those of the United States and England.

"Independent reading and research are made easy and pleasurable by the beautiful, completely equipped, and most efficiently conducted library."

The Advanced Course covers a study of the elements of the warmaking capacities of nations, of national objectives in peace and war, of military objectives in war and of the means by which national and military objectives are attained." The class carries out a program of research and estimate directly under the President of the War College. There is no instruction by the faculty.

Last year when I was in the Advanced Class there were 26 officers on the Staff, including one Army and one Marine Corps. The Junior Class had 10; the Senior Class had 50, including 6 Army and 5 Marines and the Advanced Class 9 officers of the line, 1 staff, 1 Marine, and 1 army.

Throughout the College, independence of thought and freedom of speech, based upon ordered reasoning, are encouraged to the fullest extent compatible with the ethics of the military profession.

It is not only a great privilege to attend the College but the experience of associating with such a selected group of officers as are assembled there is incomparably broadening both in a military and in a social way.



*The Naval War College.*

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## Special Activities

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### The National Horse Show and the Royal White Fair

By Lieutenant W. H. S. Wright, 9th Cavalry

The Inter-American Horse Show in Washington, D. C., the National Horse Show in New York City, and the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, are probably the three best horse shows, from the point of view of military classes, to be found on the North American continent. Of these three shows, the Inter-American is the only outdoor show (and incidentally, the only outdoor show in the country having international military classes and courses similar to those found in the larger European shows). Since this show has been completely reported by Major F. L. Whittaker in a previous issue of *THE CAVALRY JOURNAL*, this show will not be dealt with in detail in this article. The two remaining, the National Horse Show and the Royal Winter Fair, are both indoor shows, and it is not necessary here to expatiate upon the high class of sportsmanship and the keen competition to be found in these two justly famous fixtures of the horse show world.

At the National, five nations, were represented in the international military classes, Holland, Belgium, Canada, the Irish Free State, and the United States. Our team consisted of Capt. Milo H. Matteson, team captain, Capt. Royce A. Drake, Lt. F. F. Wing, Lt. W. H. S. Wright, and Lt. S. M. Sanford. Fourteen horses were taken to the show, some of them seasoned campaigners, such as *Ugly*, *Dakota* and *Joe Aleshire*, and others; of them, youngsters, such as *Henry Waterson*, *Soother* and *Fitzota*. Taking young horses on such a trip does not gain much in the way of cups or purses, but it lays up a store of experience for the youngsters which will stand them in good stead when some of the present veterans have gone to the Green Pastures.

The first three evenings of the show were taken up by the military low score competition. The first event consisted of a team of four horses from each nation to be ridden by two officers. This was won handily by the United States, entering *Dakota*, *Joe Aleshire*, *Renzo* and *Podborski* ridden by Lt. Wright and Lt. Wing, with a total of seven faults. Canada was second and Belgium third. The second event was a pair jumping class, two pairs being entered by each nation. This was won by Ireland, with one and one-half faults, with Canada second and Belgium and Holland tied for third. This left the U.S. team still in the lead with sixteen faults as against nineteen for Canada, twenty-one and one-half for Ireland and twenty-three and one-half for Belgium. On the final

night of this competition, it was still anybody's cup, and excitement ran high. The final class was one for one team of three from each nation, to be shown one following another at a safe distance. The U. S. team got twelve faults and the Canadians got eight, thus edging us out by a margin of one point for the cup. The jumping of the Canadian horses, *Roxana*, *Squire*, and *Lady Jane* was outstanding in this class as in all others.

Saturday night saw the competition for the Bowman Challenge Cup, a time-and-performance class, winning horse to be the one making best time within minimum penalty, time and/or performance. This class was won by the Irish Free State's *Red Hugh*, who jumped, on this occasion, faultlessly.

On Sunday night, the Thousand Dollar Military Jumper Stake was run off, an event which proved to be, this year as always, one of the high lights of the show. On the first round, four horses were tied, *Joe Aleshire*, *Masquerader*, and *Ugly* all of the American team, and *Dudhallow* of the Irish team. On the jump-off *Joe Aleshire*, one of our oldest campaigners, pecked badly in an in and out strained a shoulder and had to be pulled up. However, two American horses, *Ugly* and *Masquerader*, both ridden by the same officer, Lt. Sanford, (Captain Matteson, who usually rode *Ugly*, had been injured the night before) were again tied for first place, both on clean scores. It was decided to give the blue to *Ugly*, with *Masquerader* second and *Dudhallow* third.

The International Military Special Challenge Trophy was competed for on the following night. This was a knock down and out class, and was won by the Canadian Army's *Squire*, whom followers of horse shows will remember jumping in this country in years past for Mr. Danny Shea. Second was the Belgian Army's *Ramona*, with Ireland's *Red Hugh* third and Canada's *Keodore* fourth.

The International Individual Military Championship was competed for as keenly as ever this year. Three horses were entered from each nation, each horse to be ridden by a different officer. The Royal Holland Army Team, which up to this time had made but little showing, came through to win this class with *Godard*, ridden by Lt. Col. de Kruffyff. The Dutch depend for a great deal of their training on work on the longe, and while their horses did not show up well early in the show, they came along beautifully toward the end. Second in this class was the

Belgian's *Ramona*, third the Belgian's *Ibrahim*, an Irish bred horse who has been doing outstanding work in Continental Shows, and fourth, Lt. Wing on our own *Dakota*, who didn't seem to do his best until the second time around, getting a clean performance on the jump-off.

On the final night of the show, the International Perpetual Challenge Trophy was competed for. Each nation entered four horses, the best three scores to count. This class was won by the Canadians, with Belgium second and the United States third.

In many ways the National can be said to be a far from satisfactory test of the military horse. Facilities for exercising horses and for warming horses up before a class leave much to be desired. About all the warming up one can hope to give a horse before a class is a slow walk up and down an aisle between stalls. The box stalls are in the basement of Madison Square Garden, and the air soon has a horse who is used to an Army stable "out on his feet."

However, the National remains the only indoor show in the country having international military classes comparable to those found in Europe, and as such has become a fixture dear to the heart of the military horseman.

One week after the close of the National, the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto opened. All military teams went from New York to Toronto for this show, which is, in many respects, better than the National. The civilian riding and the type of competition found in the civilian

classes is certainly better than that found in New York. Although not as large as the National, the Royal Winter Fair has more of a sporting atmosphere and *more owners ride their own horses*, particularly among the ladies.

The opening military class of this show was one for teams of three horses abreast, a type of class in which our horses showed very little promise, since none of them jumped or went exactly alike, and to alter their manner of going materially lessened the chances of an individual's making a clean round. Three horses who had never gone together before were entered, *Dinger*, *Flitter* and *Fralax* ridden by Lt. Sanford, Lt. Wing, and Capt. Drake, respectively. This combination turned out a perfect performance to win 1st place. The Canadian team was second and the Irish were third.

The second night of the show, the military class was the "broad jump," a class in which the Belgian team's horses seemed to do particularly well. Their *Ramona* took first and their *Ibrahim* took second. *Masquerader* Lt. Sanford up, of the American team, was third and a Dutch entry fourth.

Thursday night a military touch and out class was staged. The course was not in itself a difficult one, but slip fillets were used on all jumps, so that among all the horses only the most careful performers were considered for entries. The class was taken by the Canadian horse *Roxana*—a big blocky mare with an almost too careful way of going. Second was *King Hi*, a gray gelding owned



#### U. S. ARMY HORSE SHOW TEAM

Left to right: Captain Milo H. Matteson, team captain, on *Scamp's Boy*, Captain Royce A. Drake, on *King-Hi*, Lieutenant F. F. Wing, on *Flitter*, Lieutenant W. H. S. Wright, on *Renzo*, and Lieutenant S. M. Sanford, on *Masquerader*.

by Capt. Royce A. Drake, and the only private mount in our string. An Irish horse was third, and *Fralax*, also ridden by Capt. Drake, was fourth.

The following night was the Five Hundred Dollar Military Stake, a class in which we hoped to do as well as we had in the Thousand Dollar Stake in New York. In this we were not disappointed, as *Masquerader*, ridden by Lt. Sanford took first, and *Fralax*, ridden by Capt. Drake, took fourth. A Belgian entry, *Whiskey*, ridden by Commandant De Menten, the team captain, was second. *Lady Jane*, ridden by Lt. Col. Timmis of the Canadian Team, was third. Col. Timmis has been appearing for Canada in shows for many years, and his dashing style has made him a favorite in New York and Toronto.

Saturday night saw the Individual Military Championship won by a Canadian horse *Dunadry*, ridden by Lt. Douglas Cleland, which was certainly a popular victory with the Canadian public. Second was a Dutch horse *Isard*, ridden by Capt. Pahud, whom many Americans will remember as the winner of the individual three day event at Los Angeles in 1932. Our *King-Hi* was third and *Dakota* tied for fourth.

No show was held on Sunday, so Monday night saw the best class, a military "handy" course, much like the "Pen" course in New York. The outstanding feature of this course is a pen jump, in which the competitor jumps into a 24 foot square pen, turns and jumps out one side. Later in the course he takes the same jump, but this time he jumps straight through as in an "in and out." This class was won by the Belgian De Menten on *Whiskey*, with our *Dakota*, Lt. Wing up, second and Ireland's *Tramore Bay* third.

On the final night of the show the International Team Challenge Trophy was competed for. Four horses were entered by each nation, and the Dutch team, whose horses had been steadily improving during the entire show, took first with their horses, *Juno*, *Isard*, *Madel Wie Due*, and *Godard*, all of whom went beautifully. The Canadian Team was second, and the United States was third with

*Dakota*, *Dinger*, *Masquerader* and *King-Hi*, ridden by Lts. Wing, Wright and Sanford and Capt. Drake.

This event closed, as far as the military events were concerned, the finest Royal Winter Fair of recent years.

All in all, the trip proved highly profitable to the team, both from the point of view of experience gained for new riders, and from the point of view of sealing the bonds of friendship between ourselves and officers of other nations as only keen competition and sound sportsmanship can do.

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### Words of Praise for the United States Horseshow Team

Excellent accounts of the various International Horse-shows held abroad during the past year have been published in *Sankt Georg*, the well-known German publication of equestrian events. These reports have found an echo in distant Chile, whence the editor of *Sankt Georg* received a letter from a reader paying great tribute to the United States Horseshow Team. To quote the author of this letter:

"In reading your report of the Aachen Horseshow, I think of the days when the United States Horseshow Team and their magnificent horses competed with the teams of South American countries at the first International Horseshow held in Chile.

"The American riders made a great impression; the splendid appearance of these true horsemen lent the Horseshow an air of distinction. Comparatively speaking, the officers of the American Team were novices in international competition; nor had they brought to Chile their very best horses. And yet, the performances of the American riders were so outstanding as to carry the Team from Viña del Mar, Chile, to London and Aachen, where it competed with the elite of 17 nations and in the Prize of Nations took third place, behind Ireland and Germany, and Lieutenant Wing took first place for individual honors."

AND IN WAR, you must have imagination, to enable you to anticipate the moves of the enemy. As you march you will constantly consider the situation from his point of view, foresee how he may use the terrain to meet you coming as you are, and prepare to act quickly to meet him. Then surprise will not benumb you. In fact you are anticipating him and there is no surprise.—BRIGADIER GENERAL LINCOLN C. ANDREWS.

# Minutes of Annual Meeting of the United States Cavalry Association

The annual meeting of the United States Cavalry Association was held at the Army and Navy Club, Washington, D. C., Monday, January 17, 1938, being called to order at 8:00 P.M. by the President, Major General Leon B. Kromer, Chief of Cavalry.

More than the required quorum attended, 54 members being present and nine hundred and ninety-eight being represented by proxies.

Upon motion, duly carried, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed.

The following annual report of the Secretary-Treasurer-Editor was read:

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER-EDITOR Washington, D. C., January 17, 1938.

### To the Members of the United States Cavalry Association:

There is submitted herewith, as required by the Constitution and the By-Laws, the report of the Secretary-Treasurer-Editor for the year ending December 31, 1937, covering the general affairs of the Association, its financial transactions and conditions; and the conduct of the CAVALRY JOURNAL, the status of its subscriptions and other pertinent matters.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CAVALRY ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1937

### CASH STATEMENT

	Receipts	Expenditures
Balance, January 1, 1937 .....	\$ 3,752.36	
Membership Dues and CAVALRY JOURNAL Subscriptions .....	7,217.68	\$ 5,830.96
Book Department .....	6,441.78	6,097.69
<i>Cavalry Combat</i> .....	1,760.73	1,559.51
Magazine Department .....	887.71	758.36
Saddle Department .....	85.00	
Salaries .....		1,276.63
Rent .....	360.00	900.00
Telephone .....	73.35	156.03
Trophies .....		47.65
Insurance .....		7.80
Interest on Securities .....	148.00	
Liquidation of Securities .....	305.00	
Payment stopped on outdated checks .....	12.75	
Unemployment Insurance and Social Security Tax .....		46.62
Annual Meeting Cavalry Association .....		72.35
Office Equipment .....		266.22
Postage, Stationery, and Incidentals .....		1,225.30
Balance, December 31, 1937 .....		2,799.24
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$21,044.36</b>	<b>\$21,044.36</b>

### ASSETS

Bank Balance, December 31, 1937 .....	\$2,799.24
Stock on hand (Books) .....	282.66
Stock on hand ( <i>Cavalry Combat</i> ) .....	1,176.00
Office Equipment .....	412.87

Office Supplies .....	54.00
Accounts Receivable:	
Membership Dues and CAVALRY JOURNAL Subscriptions .....	2,300.50
Book Department .....	2,028.13
<i>Cavalry Combat</i> .....	130.98
Magazine Department .....	58.14
Saddle Department .....	77.52
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$9,320.04</b>

### LIABILITIES

Bills Payable:	
CAVALRY JOURNAL .....	\$ 807.57
Book Department .....	173.36
<i>Cavalry Combat</i> .....	533.60
Magazine Department .....	15.40
Stationery, Office Supplies .....	14.83
Net Value of Association (without Securities) December 31, 1937 .....	7,775.28
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$9,320.04</b>

Net Value of Association (without Securities) December 31, 1936 .....	\$ 6,593.16
Gain in Net Value of Association (without Securities) during 1937 .....	\$ 1,182.12

Net Value of Association, including Securities, (\$5,631.90) as of December 31, 1937 .....	\$13,407.18
Net Value of Association, including Securities, (\$6,419.28) as of December 31, 1936 .....	\$13,012.44
Gain in Net Value of Association, including Securities, during 1937 .....	\$ 394.74

We, the undersigned, appointed by the President of The United States Cavalry Association, to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of said Association, for the year ending December 31, 1937, do hereby certify that we have examined the books of account, vouchers, and the foregoing statement, covering said fiscal year, and that the same are correct and true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

PEARL L. THOMAS,  
*Lieut. Colonel, (Cav.) GSC,*

LOUIS LER. MARTIN,  
*Major, Cavalry,*

THOMAS J. H. TRAPNELL,  
*Captain, 3d Cavalry.*

### THE CAVALRY JOURNAL

The last three issues of the CAVALRY JOURNAL have been devoted largely to the rôle of Cavalry in War. Expressions from a large number of members indicate that this type of material is receiving general approbation. During the calendar year 1937 approximately \$1,000.00 was spent on the production of the JOURNAL over the year 1936. From the foregoing financial statement of the As-

sociation it is believed that this increased use of funds on the production of the JOURNAL is justified.

### MEMBERSHIPS

From November 1, 1937 to December 31, 1937, approximately 200 new members were added to the rolls of the Association. Approximately 15 old subscriptions were dropped during the same period. The outlook for sustained or increased memberships appears very favorable.

It is believed that the present membership rolls include a considerable number of names that should be eliminated very shortly after the first of the year. Generally, the payment of dues has been prompt, and few members are in arrears more than one year. However, it is to be noted that under accounts receivable in the financial statement there is carried under "Membership Dues" the sum of \$2,300.50. This amount appears excessive and should be reduced by the elimination of a large percentage of those members now in arrears for one year or more.

### BOOK DEPARTMENT

The net profit from the sale of books by the Association amounts to \$2,198.86 for the year 1937. The large portion of this profit is derived from the sale of ROTC Manuals to the Senior Cavalry Units in the College and University field. This profit is essential to the welfare of the Association and should be stimulated and encouraged on all possible occasions.

### CAVALRY COMBAT

On May 18, 1937, the Executive Council authorized the expenditure of not to exceed \$2,500.00 for the production of not more than 3,000 copies of the volume to be known as *Cavalry Combat*. The book was published under a most favorable contract. The final agreement called for the printing of 2,000 copies; 1,000 bound, 1,000 unbound. To date 1,250 copies have been bound leaving 750 copies to be bound at 18c each or an additional cost of \$135.00.

The total cost to date of handling this publication, including binding and mailing, amounts to \$2,228.00 or \$1.12 per copy. As there are on hand 1,050 copies, the book is carried as an Asset of \$1,176.00. To date the expense of handling the book amounts to \$2,093.11, with cash received and accounts receivable totaling \$1,891.71, leaving a deficit due of \$201.40.

The sales of *Cavalry Combat* continue at a favorable rate, and it is expected to clear this deficit at a very early date in 1938. The Association should realize a comfortable profit through the publication of this book during 1938.

CHARLES S. KILBURN,  
Major, Cavalry,  
Secretary-Treasurer-Editor.

Prior to a vote to accept the report of the Secretary-Treasurer-Editor a general discussion was held in which

several members questioned the Secretary-Treasurer on certain details of the report. These questions principally concerned Securities held by the Association, and the present and future sales of *Cavalry Combat*.

Upon motion, duly carried, the report of the Secretary-Treasurer-Editor was accepted.

The following members were unanimously elected to the offices indicated:

President:

Major General Leon B. Kromer, Chief of Cavalry.

Vice-President:

Brigadier General Hamilton S. Hawkins, Retired.

Executive Council:

Brigadier General Nathaniel H. Egleston, 51st Cav. Brigade.

Brigadier General L. S. Davidson, 56th Cav. Brigade.

Colonel Guy Kent, Cavalry.

Colonel W. W. Gordon, Cavalry.

Colonel Jonathan M. Wainwright, 3rd Cavalry.

Colonel Adna R. Chaffee, (Cav.) General Staff.

Lieut. Colonel William Nalle, (Cav.) General Staff.

Lieut. Colonel Henry D. Whitfield, Cav.-Reserve.

Major Henry P. Ames, 1317th Service Unit.

The President then opened the meeting for general discussion.

Brigadier General Hamilton S. Hawkins, Retired, spoke on the splendid services rendered the Cavalry Arm by General Kromer during his tenure of office as Chief of Cavalry. He spoke of the excellent state of training and morale in the Cavalry and the future usefulness of Cavalry in the Army. General Hawkins concluded his remarks with a statement of the great need fulfilled by *Cavalry Combat* and its outstanding value to the Cavalry service.

General Kromer expressed his appreciation of the comments made by General Hawkins concerning his administration as Chief of Cavalry. He stated that his tour of office had been a source of much pride and that he had always appreciated the constant loyalty and coöperation of the officers and enlisted men of the Cavalry. He mentioned particularly the loyal assistance rendered to him by the personnel in his office. In conclusion, General Kromer stated that, in his opinion, the influence of Cavalry in the American Army would continue to be of outstanding excellence.

Major General George H. Cameron, Retired, spoke on a few random memories of the old army.

Colonel Robert J. Fleming, Retired, expressed his views on the excellent training and equipment that exists in the Cavalry of today. He was particularly impressed with the state of garrison training and the care of equipment in the 3rd Cavalry.

Colonel Jonathan M. Wainwright, Commanding, 3rd Cavalry, thanked Colonel Fleming for his remarks and reviewed the field training of the 3rd Cavalry during 1937. He emphasized the need of experience in the tactical

handling of combat vehicles (light tanks) in warfare, pointing out, particularly, the sensitiveness of these ve-

hicles to terrain. He stated that cavalry marches on modern highways presented a serious shoeing problem and that there were two answers to this problem; one, and improved shoe of better wearing quality; or, an increase in the present allotment of horseshoers to a Cavalry Regiment.

Colonel W. W. Gordon expressed the need of an alert attitude on the part of the Cavalry toward existing ideas on the development and employment of the proposed type Infantry Division.

Colonel Adna R. Chaffee related his experiences at the French Cavalry School, stressing particularly the method of horseshoeing which existed in the French Army at that time.

Major William J. Yetton, 462nd Armored Car Squadron, and Captain F. E. Hayes, 115th Cavalry, Wyoming National Guard, expressed their pleasure on being present at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

CHARLES S. KILBURN,  
Major, Cavalry.  
Secretary-Treasurer-Editor.

### Short, Short Story\*

MESSTIME. An OPLR lightly held. A scattering of sentries gazes boredly down the slopes. The MG's are laid to graze fire fields naked of cover for several hundreds of yards. There is no necessity for alarm. An insurgent attack will be heralded by artillery bombardment. Then the long lines will form, far below. In painfully slow and short rushes they will mount the heights against the stuttering guns of the defense. There will be ample time to reinforce the outpost line; ample time to form the mobile reserve, issue ammunition, don heavier clothing against the frosty air, before the attack has a chance to reach the first lines. Let's see—h'm—at least four hundred yards to come, at not more than a hundred yards, uphill, in six minutes. Twenty-four minutes.

In the gathering dusk a sudden movement occurs below. There is a high-pitch roar of voices, a sudden thundering of hoofs; burnoused horsemen, steel twinkling along their front, sweep upward.

Twenty-four minutes?

A minute and a half.

\*Contributed

## WASHINGTON POST:

### Moorish Riders Cut Down 3,000 In Teruel Raid

#### Moroccans Scize Steel and Concrete Forts Outside City.

By the United Press.

Saragoza, Spain, Jan. 18.—Moroccan cavalry conquered the heights of Alto de Muelton tonight and advanced to within a mile of Teruel, seizing the loyalists' steel and concrete fortifications outside the city and leaving 3,000 enemy dead on the slopes, nationalist headquarters announced.

The Moors, leading the nationalist troops up the mountain sides on Teruel's northern outskirts, killed hundreds of Senegalese soldiers.

Generalissimo Franco's general staff said the ruins of Teruel were untenable as nationalist troops continued to clip off highways on the north, west and south of the city.

The assault on the city caught the loyalists by surprise and was believed to have taken a toll of close to 5,000 lives.

The taking of the heights was described as breaking the backbone of the loyalist resistance on the southern Aragon front. The mountain peaks, some of which are 3,000 feet high, are along the southern end of the loyalist defense line running north to Alfambra, 26 miles north of Teruel.

More than 800 prisoners were taken.





### The Cavalry Spirit—Both Spurs

The *United Services Review*, page 4, November 4, 1937, in reporting on the mechanization of the bulk of the British Cavalry carried this statement:

"For one thing the Army Council, by its apparently discriminating method, admits that some horsed regiments are still indispensable in modern warfare, yet inconsistently seek to destroy the *cavalry spirit* in the regiments that have given most outstanding proof thereof. Another question arises in this connection; does the Army Council know more about war than the General Staffs of all other countries."

The key word in the foregoing statement is "Cavalry Spirit." What is Cavalry Spirit? Does that spirit demand more bravery than is required of infantry and other troops? By no means. Perhaps it requires, in the last analysis, less. But it most certainly demands a different kind of bravery, a different kind of thinking, as it demands a different kind of action.

The infantry and auxiliary arms generally fight under combat orders based on at least some hours consideration. They fight in measures of hours and days. Their combat consists of a slow, methodical, irresistible advance or a dug-in rugged defense. In comparable units they fight after all hands have had minutes or hours to ponder over forthcoming vicissitudes of combat. It is cool, calm fortitude.

The Cavalryman, however, is always ready for the mounted attack. And he is equally ready for dismounted action at the end of a rapid ride over unfamiliar terrain. He must think and act in seconds, often in occasions from which there can be no withdrawal should the situation change. There is demanded of him the imagination and experience which can weigh instantly the chances of success of a projected action, and realizing them, make instant decision. A high degree of moral courage in the acceptance of responsibility thus is required on one hand; on the other, the unhesitating follow-through that accompanies "throwing one's heart over the jump."

In either case, loyalty and confidence in the leader—the Cavalry Spirit—a buoyant recklessness—dig in with both spurs.

### Memberships

Since November 1, 1937, a most gratifying number of new subscribers to the *CAVALRY JOURNAL* has been re-

ceived. The staunch cooperation of Unit Commanders and Instructors is discerned clearly in this most satisfactory response to the desire of the Executive Council for expansion in the circulation of the *JOURNAL*. This cooperation and assistance is a source of appreciation to those charged with the production of the publication. A goodly number of organizations now carry 100% membership among their officers and troop headquarters. Our aim is to see this honor roll carry the names of the majority of our Cavalry Regiments.

### Secretary Baker and the Regular Army\*

Virginia Military Institute,  
Lexington, Va., Dec. 27, 1937.

Sir:

The death of Newton D. Baker is a blow to the nation and to the Army. All know how we feel toward him. Possibly some do not realize how he felt toward us. I quote, therefore, an extract from a letter he wrote me shortly after the Baker committee on air corps concluded its work:

"The Regular Army taught me two great lessons—one about itself and one about life in general. As to itself, it taught me that the Army speaks the truth, and the more I live in this shifting and evasive world, the more I set store by that primitive, primary, and indispensable virtue. Out of it, I think, almost all other virtues necessarily spring, and, as a consequence, whenever I come in contact with Army men, I expect to find and do find the qualities of candor and courage, which are more refreshing than a long vacation in a pleasant place. The other thing the Army taught me was the value of loyalties. Nothing has been more satisfying in my life than the constant exhibition of enduring loyalty to me which has come from members of the Regular Army after all these long years of separation from responsible contact with the Army and its affairs. Your reference to it touches me afresh with a sense of its kindness and value."

This statement, from a truly great soul, should prove an inspiration to all ranks.

Very sincerely,

C. E. KILBOURNE,  
Maj. Gen., U.S.A., Retired.

\*A letter to the Editor, *Army and Navy Register*.



**OUTSTANDING TRAINEES OF THE CITIZENS' MILITARY TRAINING CAMPS, 1937.** General John J. Pershing presents the Pershing Medal to the outstanding trainees of the Citizens' Military Training Camps in 1937. Three of the nine young men so honored are Cavalrymen. Two other Cavalrymen are also present: General John J. Pershing, General of the Armies, and General Malin Craig, Chief of Staff. Inset shows Cavalry trainees Timothy F. Ruane, Pittsburgh, Pa. (left), Blue Course, Ft. Myer; John C. Oakes, Johnson City, Tenn. (center), Blue Course, Ft. Oglethorpe, and James F. Brady, Orrick, Mo., White Course, Ft. Des Moines.

Annually there is designation in the nine corps areas the outstanding trainee of the Citizens' Military Training Camps held within the corps area. Through the Citizens' Military Educational Fund in recognition of the nine corps areas the outstanding trainees of the nine corps areas are given a guest trip to Washington, and are awarded a medal for distinguished attainment in military education. Of the nine young men who received this designation in 1937, three of them underwent training with a Cavalry unit. That one-third of the trainees so designated were trained through the medium of Cavalry parent organizations speaks well for the performance of this important duty by the Cavalry troops which trained them. The congratulations of the Cavalry go to Trainees Ruane, Oakes, and Brady.

# The United States Cavalry Association

*Organized November 9, 1885*

## DESIGN

*1. The aim and purpose of the Association shall be to disseminate knowledge of the military art and science, to promote the professional improvement of its members, and to preserve and foster the spirit, the traditions, and the solidarity of the Cavalry of the Army of the United States.—ARTICLE III OF THE CONSTITUTION.*

## OFFICERS

### *President*

MAJOR GENERAL LEON B. KROMER

### *Vice-President*

BRIGADIER GENERAL HAMILTON S. HAWKINS, Retired.

### *Secretary and Treasurer*

MAJOR CHARLES S. KILBURN, Cavalry

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

BRIGADIER GENERAL NATHANIEL H. EGGLESTON, 51st Cavalry Brigade.

BRIGADIER GENERAL L. S. DAVIDSON, 56th Cavalry Brigade.

COLONEL GUY KENT, Cavalry.

COLONEL W. W. GORDON, Cavalry.

COLONEL JONATHAN M. WAINWRIGHT, 3rd Cavalry.

COLONEL ADNA R. CHAFFEE, (Cavalry) General Staff.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILLIAM NALLE, (Cavalry) General Staff.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HENRY D. WHITFIELD, Cavalry-Reserve.

MAJOR HENRY P. AMES, 1317th Service Unit.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be of three classes, which, together with the conditions of eligibility therefor are as follows:

- (1) Active, for which all general officers of the Army of the United States and all commissioned officers of the Cavalry of the Army of the United States shall be eligible.
- (2) Associate, for which all present and former commissioned, warrant, and noncommissioned officers of honorable record of the military or naval services of the United States not included in class 1 shall be eligible.
- (3) Honorary.

Application for membership, showing present or former military status, should be addressed to the Secretary, U. S. Cavalry Association, 1624 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., and be accompanied by remittance of dues for one year.

## DUES AND SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CAVALRY JOURNAL

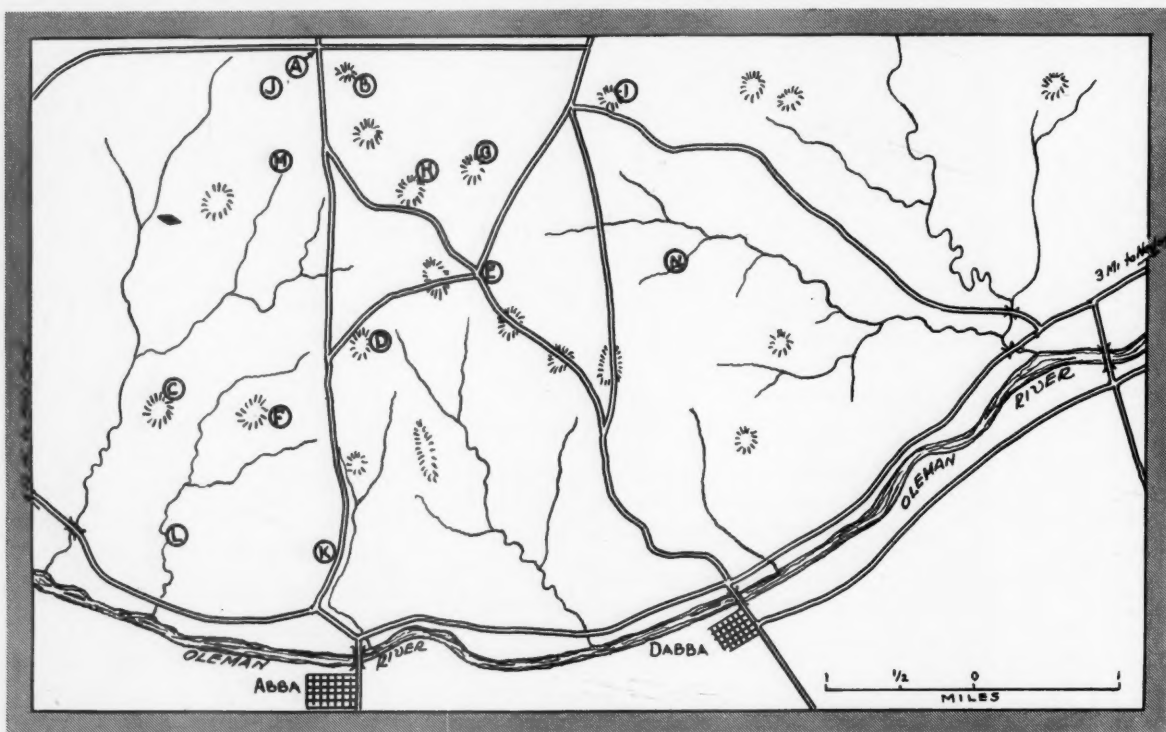
There is no initiation fee. Annual dues, payable in advance, \$3.00, which includes subscription to the CAVALRY JOURNAL.

Any person or organization not eligible for membership may subscribe for the JOURNAL at the regular subscription rate of \$3.00 per year. Canadian and foreign postage, 50 cents additional.

*Members and subscribers are requested to give prompt notice in advance of change of address. Changes in address are made only on notification.*



## What Would You Do?



(EDITOR'S NOTE: There is no justice. We had hoped he had forgotten, but the following letter proves it was all in vain. To wit:

"Dear Ed:

Enclosed find sketch and copy as I promised in last issue CAVALRY JOURNAL (See page 551, November-December, 1937, CAVALRY JOURNAL) A Slinkovitch never forgets.

Yours,  
(Signed) Slinky."

At 7:00 AM, the 10th Cavalry (Mecz), with Batteries A and B, 1st Field Artillery (Mecz) and 1st Platoon, 1st Engineer Troop, attached, arrived at CR (A) with the mission of seizing the crossings over OLEMAN RIVER at ABBA and DABBA and protecting the crossing of units of the I Corps until relieved by the 10th Infantry at 11:45 AM.

Colonel Oilburn R. Diesel, the regimental commander, with the commander's group, squadron, machine-gun, artillery and mortar platoon commanders, is at (B).

Captain Otto Pulse, commanding Troop A (the armored-car troop) has informed the Regimental Commander of the situation existing at this time, which is as follows:

Patrol No. 1 (1st Platoon) is in observation from vicinity of hill at (C). It has reported a large hostile cavalry force occupying the ridge (D)—(E). A small force with anti-tank weapons is near hill (F).

Patrol No. 2 (2nd Platoon) with one section on hill (G), one section on hill (H), and the 4th Platoon on Hill (I) have driven back several small hostile cavalry patrols. A hostile force of about one troop disappeared along the stream bed at (N).

From his position on the high ground at (B) Colonel Diesel made a hasty but thorough personal observation of the terrain and the situation confronting him, and then in a sharp staccato voice, somewhat resembling the exhaust of a motorcycle climbing a steep grade, he said, "Gentlemen, the regiment attacks." Then quickly realizing his ghastly error, he turned toward the artillery and engineer commanders with an apologetic smile and said,

"The regiment (reinforced) attacks at once from the vicinity of that hill (pointing to Hill (G)), enveloping the hostile right (east) flank and driving the enemy to the southwest."

#### NOTE TO EDITOR

Dear Ed: I realize you haven't had time to bone up and keep abreast of us boys in the mechanized game, but supposing you were ordered to take command of a cavalry regiment (mecz), without delay. You'd be in a tight fix now, wouldn't you? All right, then, I'll help you. You are Colonel Diesel. You have made your decision. Now, what is your plan for the attack? Don't peek and tell us—

#### WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

(Yours, Slinky).

#### SOLUTION

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Dear Mr. Slinkovitch: I resent the aspersion you so subtly cast relative to my personal knowledge of mechanized cavalry tactics and also about not peeking. Here is my solution and you can see whether I peeked or not. Ed.)

To have the 1st Squadron with one platoon Machine Gun Troop move under cover to vicinity of (G), launch an attack, and capture (E) and (D).

To have the 2d Squadron (less Troop E) with the Machine Gun Troop (less one platoon) move to the vicinity of hill (H) prepared to assist the attack of the 1st Squadron and for prompt displacement forward.

To have the Mortar Platoon from vicinity of (M) smoke (E) and (D), lifting fire on signal from 1st Squadron at (G).

To have Battery A and Battery B, 1st Field Artillery (Mecz), from vicinity of (J) open fire at once initially on (E) and (D) and be prepared to lift their fire to interdict (K) and (L).

To have Troop E remain in vicinity of (B) in regimental reserve.

To have Armored Car Troop continue reconnaissance, with special attention to ABBA, and protect the flanks.

To establish service park vicinity (A).

#### THE END

A SLINKOVITCH PRODUCTION

✱ ✱ ✱

### The Cavalry Rifle and Pistol Team

The Cavalry annually enters a Rifle and Pistol Team in the National Rifle and Pistol Matches conducted by the War Department at Camp Perry, Ohio. There our teams and individual members of our squad compete with several thousand marksmen, both civilian and service. The 1937 Matches were the most successful that the Cavalry has participated in for a number of years. The success of our team reflected the generous support of the War Department, the Chief of Cavalry and of the Cavalry organizations.

Modern warfare has increased the importance of well

trained individual marksmen. Shooting develops initiative, mental and muscular coordination, self reliance and physique. Participation in team events instills the spirit of cooperation, unselfishness, confidence in one's team mates and the importance of the unit as opposed to the interests of the individual. These qualities gained by officers and men who attend the National Matches are returned with them to their organizations benefiting the Cavalry as a whole.

The Cavalry Rifle and Pistol Team is a continuing organization. It is the only Cavalry team, the membership of which is determined by competition open to all officers and all men of Cavalry organizations. The War Department requires that annually a percentage of the team's members are ones without previous team experience and also limits the number of years team members are eligible to compete. Some service and civilian teams keep a portion of their members together and continue training during the entire year. At the completion of the matches, all cavalrymen return to their proper organizations to gather again after months of separation. It is of utmost importance that the interest and cooperation of organization commanders be continued, thus promising equal success to our efforts in 1938. Early preparation must therefore be stressed.

One of the most important phases in the training for the National Matches is the preliminary training and target practice conducted prior to and during the regimental tryout period. Thorough preliminary training is reflected in the individual's shooting progress by which the entire squad benefits. Each regiment has qualified officers and enlisted men capable of carrying out this training along the lines to be followed when the squad assembles. The continued interest of the commanding officers in the regimental tryouts will do much to insure proficient training.

Experience has proved that training conducted during the winter and spring in preparation for the regimental tryouts should include competitive shooting in both individual and team events. These competitions may be held indoors or on the "A" range and should include inter-troop and inter-regimental matches, participation in the winter NRA matches, and in local matches of civilian gun clubs or shooting organizations. Early training of such nature will do much to determine competitive shots, will point out men who shoot because of the pleasure derived and will also advance the physical training. Conducting these competitions necessitates very little early planning and requires little time at the expense of normal training. However, to be successful, the fullest support of organization commanders is required; a small expenditure of funds in the purchase of proper equipment and in entrance fees or prize awards may be necessary. The value of this early training will be realized during the regimental tryouts and when organizations fire for regular practice. As this early training has a direct bearing on the quality of competitors sent to the team tryouts, as many men in each organization as is possible should be encouraged to compete.

Normally it takes three to five years to develop a new shot to team material. It is therefore important that men who have had the training and have maintained their interest should be returned to the team tryouts. Since the anchor men of the team are those who have competed in the National Team Matches, it is likewise necessary that a number of these men be returned each year to compete for the places allowed for old shots, to further the competition and to render assistance to the team officials, even though these men are among the best men in the organization and their services are badly needed.

In order that the Cavalry can obtain maximum benefits from the training in marksmanship, officers and men without previous experience at Camp Perry, should be encouraged to participate in the preliminary training and regimental tryouts. Such men are invaluable to the team because they form the nucleus for future teams. They should be encouraged to go to Camp Perry. The training received during the team tryouts and the National Matches should make them invaluable to their organizations as instructors in rifle and pistol marksmanship.

The plans for the assembly of the 1938 squad at Camp Perry some time in May are now being prepared. Letters of instruction regarding the preliminary training and regimental tryouts have been forwarded to regimental and separate unit commanders. All who participate in the early training and the continuation of training at Camp Perry can look forward to long hours of hard work. This long period of training under competitive strain calls for the best efforts of our very best men. Knowing that the Cavalry is supporting them, the squad will do its work with the true Cavalry spirit, willingly, cheerfully and thoroughly, and success can be anticipated in the 1938 Matches.

/ / /

### Leather

The uses of leather under the various classifications of A.R. 30-3010.

General: *Backs—Sides*: The "back" is the best part of a side of leather (half of a hide) with the head and belly trimmed off. Backs are used by the depot in the manufacture of new equipment. "Sides" are *not* trimmed and are issued to the field for repair purposes as bellies may be used for many field repairs.

*The following items are made of Harness Leather:*

Stirrup straps for both Officers and McClellan Saddles. 10 to 12 oz. leather is used.

Pack equipment: Saddle pads and breechings are made of medium harness leather, 10 to 12 oz. Breast collars are made of 7 to 8 oz. harness leather.

*The following items are made of Strap Leather:*

Bridles, Cavalry, M. 1909 are made of 9 to 10 oz. leather.

Bridles, training, with martingales, M. 1920, are made of 7 to 8 oz. leather.

Reins are made of 7 to 8 oz. leather.

Coat straps are made of 7 to 8 oz. leather.

Saddle skirts are made of 9 to 10 oz. leather.

/ / /

### Private Mounts in the Philippines

There is plenty of opportunity for polo on the post of Stotsenburg and also in Manila. I believe that all Cavalry officers ordered to the Philippine Islands should be advised to bring their polo ponies and chargers with them. I know of no place where a good charger is more necessary. (Extract from a letter to the Chief of Cavalry.)

/ / /

### Excerpt from Cavalry Outpost Duties

BY F. DE BRACK

"I have often mentioned to you General Curely, lieutenant with me in 1807; he became a general in 1813. But in 1806, while twenty leagues in advance of our army, and at the head of twenty men of the Seventh Hussars, he struck terror into Leipsic, where 3,000 Prussians were stationed. In 1809, while fifteen leagues in advance of the division to which he belonged, and at the head of 100 men of the Seventh Chasseurs and Ninth Hussars, he passed unperceived through the Austro-Italian army, which it was his object to reconnoitre, and penetrated as far as the headquarters of the Archduke, the general-in-chief.

"In 1812, at Pultusk, with 100 men of the Twentieth Chasseurs he captured from the enemy twenty-four pieces of artillery, and took the general-in-chief of the Russian army a prisoner.

"Well, this man so valiant, so intrepid, so skilful, so strong-willed, so prompt, so careful in his dashing enterprises, was, when he commanded a detachment, at the same time its surgeon, veterinary surgeon, saddler, shoemaker, cook, baker and farrier, until encountering the enemy, when he showed himself the most remarkable soldier of the Grand Army. Whenever he went into action the men of his command were fresher and better prepared for fighting than those of any other, and their conduct showed it."

NOTE: For a detailed account of an outstanding Cavalry-man, General Curely, see *THE CAVALRY JOURNAL*, May-June and July-August, 1937.

## Chief of Cavalry's Question

WHAT COMPOSITION AND DESIGN OF HORSESHOE SHOULD THE ARMY ADOPT TO MEET MODERN CONDITIONS OF HARD SURFACED ROADS?

*Comments from the field are solicited.*

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## General Hawkins' Notes

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### The Right Idea of War and the Way to Avoid It

In order to frighten the people of this country against war, pacifists and many public speakers, who for their own private ends wish to appear as superior in their knowledge and wisdom, make statements as of fact without the slightest regard for the truth or for the recorded figures which an honest investigation into history can reveal.

A certain speaker through the radio made recently a statement to the effect that in all the wars put together of Alexander, Caesar, Genghis Khan, Frederick the Great, Napoleon, and all the more recent wars, the losses were less than they would be in a modern world war. He stated that war was more terrible now than it has ever been, that the glamour of war is gone, that men are no longer led by heroes setting glorious examples with an exaltation of mind and spirit worthy of emulation by subsequent generations, but were driven like sheep to the slaughter without the slightest enthusiasm or inspiration from leaders and only by means of fear, more fear of those behind them than of the enemy.

There is not the slightest justification for a single one of these statements. War has always been terrible. It is less terrible now than in the days of Genghis Khan, as the facts and figures of history can prove. Over seventy years ago General Sherman said, "War is hell." The conception of hell is certainly no worse now than it was then. The fact is that war is less horrible now than it was then. It is perhaps more terrifying to the civilian population now than it was, because airplanes may bomb towns and cities and kill a few civilians and frighten more of them. Several hundred people have been killed in this manner in China by the Japanese. The very crowded nature of Chinese cities has lent itself to this. In a European war there would be less casualties from city bombing than in China. And then too, it was probably a military mistake because it will not advance the cause of Japan in a military way. Only the defeat of Chinese armies will bring success to the Japanese. European soldiers will probably appreciate this fact and refrain from wasting airplanes and munitions in this useless attack on civilians. But for the soldier the chances of going through a campaign unharmed are greater today than ever before. And the chances of recovery from wounds are many times greater.

Anyone who says that there is no opportunity for leadership and for heroic example has never been in battle or has gone through it with a craven heart so that his eyes were dimmed and his observation dulled and his

mental powers nearly paralyzed. Furthermore, he has never read the personal experiences of some of the gallant souls who went through the World War. It is true that since the invention of gunpowder the higher commanders have usually been forced to remain in rear of their lines in order to command and to coordinate the operations. But the commanders of smaller units have as much opportunity for leadership as they ever had and in some respects more than they ever had before.

This is not intended as an argument for war, but it is intended against the propaganda of fear. In the history of the world, no nation that has been dominated by fear of war has survived. Nations have survived and attained greatness through the souls of men who have met fearlessly the menace of disease, famine, war and the elements. Some aspects of war are horrible. The glory that lies in it is the resistance of men's hearts and minds to these terrifying aspects.

We cannot and should not hope to avoid war through fear inculcated in the hearts of our young men so that they will refuse to come to their country's call and will prefer to remain in cowardly and fancied security within their homes. The very homes that have been made possible and secure through the fearlessness and sacrifice of other men. War cannot be avoided in that way, nor can governments survive in that spirit. It is only through the moral aspects of right and wrong that war can be avoided. War is not brought about by the glamour that lies in the hearts of young men, but by commercial rivalry and greed on the part of one of the belligerents and the necessity for self-defense on the part of the other.

There is no glory in war for a nation as a whole which brings about an unholy or unjustifiable attack on its neighbor, but there is plenty of glory for the men and women who do their duty by their country. And for the people who fight in self-defense against the aggressor there is glory indeed.

Therefore, our people should not set about destroying war by trying to convince young men that there is no glamour in it. In truth some of the noblest virtues in mankind are cultivated in war. It is by the cultivation of honesty and fair-mindedness and generosity and the willingness to work without so many luxuries and, finally, by the establishment of a national defense that warns aggressive nations that we can fight and are not afraid to do so in defense of our rights, that will bring about lasting peace to our country.



## CAVALRY IN THE FOREIGN PRESS

**CAVALRY ORGANIZATION.** By Colonel Carlos Pavon Cortes, Mexican Army. (From *Revista del Ejercito*, Mexico, D. F., August, 1937.)

Colonel Cortes introduces his discussion with a series of statistics showing the areas, populations and military strengths of various countries. In this connection, the author briefly describes the composition of the various armies and their cavalry in particular.

We shall present the data cited by the author in the form of a table entitled "cavalry strength of various countries." For the sake of consistency, we shall adhere in this review to the American nomenclature of cavalry "squadron" and "troop," in describing the organization of both the European and American cavalry. Tactically and administratively, the cavalry "group" of the European armies corresponds to our "squadron"; while the European "squadron" compares to the "troop" of the U. S. Cavalry.

### BELGIUM

The Belgian army is grouped into army corps and infantry divisions. The cavalry is organized into a cavalry corps of two divisions, each of which includes:

Division headquarters:

- 1 cavalry regiment of 2 squadrons of 3 rifle troops each; 1 machine gun troop; 1 school troop; 1 service troop;
- 2 mixed regiments, each including 3 rifle troops; 1 machine gun troop; 1 motorized squadron;
- 1 cyclist regiment of 2 battalions of 3 companies each and 1 machine gun company.

The accompanying artillery and special troops are organically assigned to the cavalry corps. They include:

- 1 regiment of horse artillery, 75-mm. gun, of 2 battalions of 3 batteries each;
- 1 battalion of motorized artillery, 105-mm. howitzer;
- 1 armored car squadron;
- service troops.

### BULGARIA

The Bulgarian army does not organically include cavalry units larger than a regiment. There are ten cavalry regiments, three of which are of the line and seven of the mounted police force.

The cavalry regiment consists of:

- Regimental headquarters;
- 4 rifle troops;
- 1 heavy machine gun troop.

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The largest cavalry unit in the Czechoslovakia army is the independent cavalry brigade. There are three of these independent brigades, each of which comprises:

- 4 cavalry regiments;
- 1 cyclist troop;
- 1 armored car troop.

The cavalry regiment is organized as follows:

- Regimental headquarters;
- Headquarters platoon;
- Communication platoon;
- 2 squadrons of 2 rifle troops each;
- 1 machine gun troop.

The effective strength of the regiment is 600 men. There are 11 active regiments, from which we may conclude that one of the three brigades has only three regiments.

### FRANCE

The French army on the European continent comprises 86 infantry regiments, 11 tank regiments, 70 artillery regiments, 50 cavalry regiments, service units, schools and staffs. To these forces may be added the 52 infantry regiments and 18 cavalry regiments stationed in North Africa and available for immediate reinforcement of the forces in Europe.

The French cavalry is organically grouped into cavalry divisions which, in the event of war, may be organized as cavalry corps.

The cavalry division includes:

- Division headquarters with staff and services;
- 2 cavalry brigades of 2 regiments each;
- 1 regiment of *dragons portés* of 3 battalions;
- 1 regiment of horse artillery, 75-mm. gun, including 2 battalions of 3 batteries, 1 instruction battery and 1 battery in reserve;
- 1 battalion of truck-carried artillery, 105-mm. of 3 batteries;
- 1 armored car squadron of 3 troops of 4 platoons each;
- 1 signal company;
- 1 sapper company on bicycles;
- 1 bridge engineer company;
- 1 motorcycle troop with 16 machine guns;
- service troops.

The cavalry regiment consists of:

- Regimental headquarters;
- Headquarters troops;

- 1 troop of heavy machine guns and accompanying guns;
  - 2 squadrons, each including a squadron headquarters and 2 troops of 4 platoons each;
- Approximate strength: 800 men.

In addition to the cavalry divisions, the organization of the French army provides for cavalry reconnaissance squadrons assigned to the army corps and infantry divisions.

### GERMANY

The secrecy with which Germany cloaks the reorganization of her military establishment renders it difficult to estimate the percentage of her cavalry.\* The 100,000-men army included 18 cavalry regiments, with an effective strength of 595 officers, 2,943 noncommissioned officers, 12,453 privates, 17,451 mounts and 176 pack animals.

The German cavalry division includes:

- Division headquarters;
- 3 brigades of 2 cavalry regiments each;
- 3 heavy machine gun troops;
- 1 battalion of motorized infantry;
- 3 cyclist platoons;

\*REVIEWER'S NOTE: The great interest in cavalry revealed in German military literature and civil equestrian institutions, the organization of the semi-military SS and SA Mounted Corps, the mounted police force organized on military lines, aside from the nature of Germany's potential theatres of operations in the east and the serious problem of motor fuel supply which Germany is bound to face in a war on several fronts, all clearly reflect that Germany is a firm believer in a strong horsed cavalry arm. We may safely conclude, therefore, that the reorganization of the German army is accompanied by a proportionately large increase in cavalry.

- 1 regiment of mixed artillery, comprising 1 battalion of horse artillery, 77-mm. gun, of 3 batteries; 1 battalion of heavy field artillery, motorized, of 3 batteries;
- 1 armored car troop;
- 1 battalion of motorized engineers;
- 1 air squadron;
- service troops.

The cavalry regiment consists of:

- Regimental headquarters;
  - 4 rifle troops of 4 platoons each;
  - 1 troop of heavy machine guns, antiaircraft and anti-tank guns;
- Strength of troop: 164 men.

### GREAT BRITAIN

Owing to the geographical position and high state of industrialization of the country, British national defense relies primarily on a powerful navy and air force. The British army is highly motorized and mechanized. The 22 cavalry regiments, most of which are motorized and mechanized, are grouped into independent brigades of 4 regiments each.

The cavalry regiment includes:

- Regimental headquarters;
- Service troop;
- 3 rifle troops of 4 platoons each;
- 1 machine gun troop of 4 platoons, each platoon armed with 2 heavy machine guns mounted on "Carden-Lloyd" motor vehicles.

CAVALRY STRENGTH OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES

	AREA sq km	TOTAL POPULATION	POPULATION sq km	LAND BOUNDARIES km	COAST LINE km	REGULAR ARMY	CAVALRY	PERCENTAGE
<b>EUROPE:</b>								
BELGIUM	30,144	8,276,000	271.8	1,379	66	67,460	7,000	10.3%
BULGARIA	103,146	6,067,000	108.3	1,165	267	29,729	5,302	17%
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	140,000	15,168,000	108.3	4,125	-	188,669	7,500	3.9%
FRANCE	551,000	41,940,000	76.1	2,774	2,850	400,000	56,000	14%
GERMANY	470,900	66,616,000	141.5	4,487	1,864 (in 1933)	550,000 100,000	? 17,451	? 17%
GREAT BRITAIN	244,000	46,889,000	192.2			185,958	8,114 largely mechanized	4.3%
ITALY	310,137	43,009,000	138.7	1,971	7,089	527,606	9,500	1.8%
ICELAND	398,000	33,823,000	87.2	5,394	140	266,015	41,400	15.5%
PORTUGAL	89,700	7,222,000	78.1	1,214	832	?	8,000	?
in Europe	5,000,000	135,000,000	27	4,000				
SOVIET RUSSIA	16,330,800	33,000,000	7.9			1,300,000	60,000	4.6%
in Asia								
RUMANIA	294,892	19,196,000	65.1	2,870		141,399	14,000	9.9%
<b>AFRICA:</b>								
ARGENTINA	2,797,113	12,393,811	4.4	9,810	1,004	35,370	1,656	10.3%
UNITED STATES	7,639,383	127,521,000	16			151,873	7,816	5.1%

## ITALY

The Italian army does not provide for cavalry corps or divisions, but has in their place "mobile divisions" composed of motorized, mechanized and horsed units. There are two mobile divisions, each of which includes a cavalry brigade of three horsed regiments. In addition, there are six cavalry regiments, probably designed for coöperation with army corps or infantry divisions.

The cavalry regiment is composed of:

- Regimental headquarters;
- Headquarters platoon;
- 1 heavy machine gun troop;
- 2 squadrons of 2 rifle troops each.

## POLAND

Cavalry has always been a superior factor in the military history of Poland. While it seems that Poland is gradually raising the strength of her cavalry, there are in existence now one cavalry division and 12 independent brigades.

The cavalry division comprises:

- Division headquarters;
- 3 brigades of 2 cavalry regiments each;
- 1 regiment of horse artillery;
- 1 armored car squadron;
- 1 engineer troop with bridge train;
- service troops.

The independent cavalry brigade includes:

- Brigade headquarters;
- 3 cavalry regiments;
- 1 battalion of horse artillery;
- 1 engineer troop;
- service troops.

The cavalry regiment consists of:

- Regimental headquarters;
- 1 signal platoon;
- 4 rifle troops;
- 1 machine gun troop.

## PORTUGAL

The Portuguese army includes four cavalry brigades and eight independent cavalry regiments.

The cavalry brigade is composed of:

- Brigade headquarters;
- 3 cavalry regiments;
- 1 cyclist battalion;
- 1 battalion of horse artillery;
- 1 armored car troop.

The independent cavalry regiment is organized as follows:

- Regimental headquarters;
- 3 rifle troops of 6 squads each;
- 1 machine gun troop.

## SOVIET RUSSIA

The strength of the Soviet Russian cavalry may be esti-

mated at 100 regiments. This cavalry is organically grouped into four cavalry corps of three cavalry divisions, a regiment of field artillery and a communication detachment each.

Each of the 12 cavalry divisions is organized as follows:

- Division headquarters;
- 3 cavalry brigades of 2 regiments each;
- 1 regiment of horse artillery;
- 1 engineer troop;
- 1 signal troop;
- service troops.

The cavalry regiment consists of:

- Regimental headquarters;
- 3 rifle troops;
- 1 heavy machine gun troop.

## ARGENTINA

The Argentine Republic maintains only 12 cavalry regiments, grouped into brigades.

The organization of the cavalry brigade includes:

- Brigade headquarters;
- 3 cavalry regiments;
- 1 battalion of horse artillery;
- 1 machine gun troop;
- 1 brigade engineer platoon;
- service troops.

## BRAZIL

The Brazilian army consists of five infantry divisions, three cavalry divisions, a mixed brigade, service units, schools and General Staff.

The cavalry division includes:

- Division headquarters;
- 2 cavalry brigades of 2 regiments each;
- 1 battalion of horse artillery of 2 batteries;
- 1 signal troop;
- 1 battalion of mounted infantry, comprising 3 rifle companies and 1 heavy machine gun company;
- 1 company of mounted bridge engineers;
- 1 air squadron;
- service troops.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The U. S. Cavalry has only one complete cavalry division stationed in Texas, on the Mexican border; two additional cavalry divisions possess only skeleton organizations.

The cavalry regiment is organized as follows:

- Headquarters troop;
- Machine gun troop;
- 3 squadrons (one of them inactive);
- Effective strength: 77 officers and 1,364 men.

The cavalry squadron comprises:

- Squadron headquarters;
- 2 troops of 4 rifle platoons and 1 light machine gun platoon each.

## LESSONS FROM THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

The following briefed translation from an article appearing in the September issue of *La Revue D'Infanterie* is submitted because of the pertinent remarks therein concerning lessons which may be drawn from the Spanish Civil War.

## 1. Summary.

Brings out the strength of the defense and the fact that air, motorized and mechanized forces are incapable of achieving the decision alone. It confirms the old principles of liaison and shows the dependence of motorized and mechanized forces on roads.

## 2. Translation.

It has often been said that modern warfare may be summed up in two words; speed and armor. Up to last year, great hopes were placed in motorization, mass aviation and fast tanks—a thesis which the Ethiopian war seemed to confirm. Today however, the Spanish conflict calls attention to the lessons of past wars. Tanks and motorized weapons have to a certain extent failed while the superiority of antiaircraft defense and the inviolability of fronts have been demonstrated.

To arrive at definite conclusions, however, it is necessary to examine the conditions which obtain in Spain.

At the beginning the conflict was characterized by the lack of coördination between operations and the failure of important attacks due to the absence of general staffs worthy of the name. Modern warfare is difficult and complicated, therefore the conduct of operations must be confided to proved specialists who have had thorough training. While an army may be thrown together in a hurry, such does not apply to the higher cadres.

From abroad both the nationalist and governmental forces were supplied with new material:

The Nationalists received light and fast tanks of the type used in the German motorized divisions, and also the Italian Fiat-Ansaldo tank, used extensively in Ethiopia.

The Government forces received two types of Russian tanks, more powerful and more heavily armored.

The Red 25-mm. gun made sieves out of the German and Italian tanks, while the Russian tanks encountered the

same fate at the hands of the nationalist antitank guns (37-mm. German gun). From these facts it can be concluded that:

Tank combat has the arithmetical rigidity of action between naval units, the strongest defeat the weakest however numerous.

Belligerents must be equipped with matériel in series rather than single units.

Two operations are especially interesting and instructive.

On 26 October 1936 the Government sent forty 12 to 18 ton Russian tanks against General Franco's forces in the Parle-Torrejon de Velasco sector, south of Madrid. This action was not decisive because "Red artillery and aviation did not act in close liaison with the attack."

At Guadalajara, in March 1937, the special Soria division after a rapid advance in depth was strongly attacked and nearly routed by Red aviation. Of the 200 tanks engaged in action, many were destroyed. It would appear therefore that no mass attack should be launched without command of the air and effective artillery and infantry support.

Reference aviation the author points out two facts:

Inability of air bombardments at Madrid to break civilian morale. (General Douhet's theory failed to give the results anticipated.)

Efficiency of antiaircraft artillery which has accounted for 70% of the airplanes brought down.

## CONCLUSIONS

A coherent and disciplined army cannot be improvised. Without general staffs there can be no maneuver only a collision.

Progress made in armament favors the defense. Neither tanks, motorized units nor aviation are capable of obtaining the decision alone.

A motorized division, even reinforced with tanks, is extremely vulnerable and is tied to roads much more than was generally thought.

Speedy and lightly armored vehicles are incapable of coping with antitank weapons.

Modern warfare confirms the old principles of liaison between arms and the inviolability of fronts as well as the value of the counter-attack.

## NAPOLEON'S XXVIII MAXIM OF WAR

*NO FORCE should be detached on the eve of a battle, because affairs may change during the night, either by the retreat of the enemy, or by the arrival of large reinforcements to enable him to resume the offensive, and counteract your previous arrangements.*



IF WAR COMES. By R. Ernest Dupuy, Major, U. S. Field Artillery, and George Fielding Eliot, late major, Military Intelligence Reserve, U. S. Army. The Mac-Millan Company, New York City, 1937. 11 sketch maps. 369 pages. Price \$5.00.

*Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel H. C. Vanderveer, Field Artillery, Instructor, Department of Tactics, The Cavalry School.*

At a time when all the world is concerned with little wars and rumors of big wars, this book discusses questions of current military development for intelligent readers. What of these rumors? What of the world's military situation? What of strategy and tactics? What of these new tools and methods which are to make our defense a gesture and our civilization a shambles?

The authors have discussed these questions carefully and simply, with examples from very recent combat to illustrate their discussion; they have neither ignored nor exalted the effect of weapons developed within twenty-five years upon principles developed through twenty-five hundred years. The inquiring reader will find much information and perhaps some comfort.

A sensible viewpoint and discussion is given on each of the following subjects of general interest: new weapons, effects of air armament, land warfare of the near future, gas, propaganda, and the effect of war on civil population. A brief discussion of the national aims and aspirations of the principal countries is included. The final chapter deals with this country, on the side lines as yet, but intensely interested in current developments and events.

The professional soldier will find much of interest in this discussion of the modern aspect of war; particularly the discussion of strategic areas, avenues and situations. The book provides a convenient broad general picture of the military attitudes in which the nations may survey each other today.

WEST POINT TODAY. By Kendall Banning. Funk and Wagnalls Company, New York. 27 Illustrations. 303 Pages. Price \$2.50.

*Reviewed by Captain J. H. Phillips, Ninth Cavalry, Instructor, Department of Tactics, The Cavalry School.*

The publishers write of this book as an "authentic and readable account" of West Point. Mr. Banning, although not a graduate of West Point, has written an interesting and readable story of the institution, the plot of which is

"DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY, WEST POINT."

Boys and young men who are ambitious to go to West Point can gain from Mr. Banning's book an accurate picture of the life of a cadet. Young ladies who "make" West Point can learn what is expected of them and also what they can expect. The parents of cadets will gain much interesting information which their sons are not likely to tell them. Cadets can find much in the book which they will not have time to discover for themselves; graduates and former cadets who remain interested in West Point will learn of many changes which have occurred since their time. Any American citizen should find in this book an interesting story of an institution rich in ideals, customs, traditions, and beauty, which has helped make American history, and which plays an important part in our scheme of government.

Mr. Banning, through his association with West Point and its cadets and graduates, has gained a comprehensive understanding of its spirit.

TRAINING HUNTERS, JUMPERS, AND HACKS.

By Lieut. Colonel Harry D. Chamberlin. Derrydale Press, Inc., New York, N. Y. Price \$10.00.

*To be reviewed in the March-April issue of THE CAVALRY JOURNAL.*

Col. Chamberlin's first book, *Riding and Schooling Horses*, has been accepted as the best American book on its subject. This, his second book, will quickly take its place beside the first, for the two volumes form the standard modern American work on riding, training and schooling horses.

In this book the author considers the selection, conformation and gaits of a horse, the beauties and defects of every part, head carriage and the objectives of training, the steps in breaking a colt, the advanced work in his training and training the horse to jump.

Col. Chamberlin's ability to put his vast knowledge of horsemanship in simple and thoroughly understandable language adds greatly to the value of his work.

THE MILITARY HISTORY OF THE WORLD WAR. By Colonel G. L. McEntee. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$7.50.

During the World War General Haig, of the British forces, was accused of deliberately sacrificing thousands of soldiers needlessly, but when we read *The Military His-*

story of the World War. *A Complete Account of the Campaigns on all Fronts Accompanied by Numerous Maps and Diagrams*, we understand that General Haig could not have acted otherwise. We see unfolded the plans of every battle of the World War, with all the chess-play involved, and the coups and miscalculations which meant defeat or victory. Before a shot was fired every nation involved in that struggle had a definite plan of attack and defense which had been worked out years in advance. Colonel McEntee, with his illuminating maps and his lucid explanations, shows the progressive stages of the war and all the alterations of original plans made necessary by unpredictable circumstances, such as the collapse of Russia and the entrance of the United States into the fray.

Experts say that this is the best account of the World War yet written, and this statement is made in the face of a tremendous library of war literature. The military academies in advance of publication have accepted the book as a text, despite the fact that the presentation is essentially nontechnical, and made so deliberately, in order that the layman could get a clear picture of what actually happened. Colonel McEntee's readable style is the result of years of study of the psychology of an audience, for he has lectured on military topics before military schools, before clubs, and before school children, and he has left out of the book anything which might bore the reader, for he understands what is expected of a writer or speaker.

*The Military History of the World War* is a glorified puzzle—you simply sit down with the generals and look at their maps, and then you figure out what you think they are going to do, or what you would do under a similar circumstance. After you have played this little chess game and arranged your pawns you glance at the text and find out what actually took place. It is a most fascinating and absorbing mental exercise, much better than a detective story, for you know that on your very street or in your own family is a man who fought in that battle, and this realistic angle gives the book an added authenticity. The boy next door who is now playing football and boasting of his "dates" may be one of those pawns in the next war, and to know what happened in the last struggle may help us to avoid a new one, and if not that, then at least give us some idea of what to expect and how to prepare for it. Let us remember that tomorrow's battles were fought yesterday. There are thousands of ex-service men who never knew the actual plans and strategy of the battles they fought in, and here for the first time they can piece the whole thing together. They never understood why they were sent over the top at a certain hour at a certain place, why they were ordered to go forward or to retreat, but the maps in Colonel McEntee's book and the accompanying text leave no doubt in the mind. This is a strictly unbiased narrative, as valuable to the Germans as to the French, British, or American readers, for many of the maps were taken from the official German Archives, and Colonel McEntee does not use the word "enemy"

anywhere in the book. His concern is with what really happened on all fronts, proved by official records, and not with any political or military propaganda, nor does he attempt to enshrine any heroes. His concern is with history and not with romance.

\* \* \*

THE HORSE AND THE DESERT. By William Robinson Brown. The Arabian Horse Club, Berlin, New Hampshire. Price \$6.75, Postpaid (order direct from publisher).

*Reviewed by Captain H. A. Luebberrmann, 3d Cavalry.*

When the Arabian Horse is mentioned in the army or in horsey civilian circles, one frequently hears the slightly superior remark, "Why go back three hundred years?" On the face of that remark the idea appears fairly reasonable, and we are far too prone to accept it from our elders without any further thought on the matter.

Fortunately for us and for the cavalry this question has been splendidly answered and refuted in part by the magnificent book *The Horse of the Desert*, by William Robinson Brown, who owns the Maynesboro (Arabian) Stud at Berlin, New Hampshire.

This book is an exhaustive treatise on the Arab, and is divided into seven parts as follows: Habitat; Original History; Physical and Mental Qualities; Blood Lines and Names; Closely Related Breeds; Purchasing in Arabia, Clubs, and Studs; and Usefulness for Cavalry.

Each part is a fascinating story in itself, comprising as it does not only the author's personal experiences and observations of the Arab Horse and his master, but also the gleanings of the gems of a bibliography containing the finest books written on this subject during the past hundred and more years.

The infinite research, care and fairness in the writing of this book, proves the author to be a great lover of horses in general and of the Arabian Horse in particular. His mission is to include them in part (by cross breeding) in our Cavalry. His reason: because they and their cross breeds are superior in endurance, disposition, soundness, and weight carrying ability to any other horse today. His proof; records of endurance rides, in which most of the well known American breeds were competing; and further tales of amazing feats of speed and endurance of the Arabian strain.

When one sees the weedy, high withered, long backed, shad-bellied, ill-tempered, thin shinned, \$165.00 thoroughbred that *occasionally* comes to the troops, or the big ungainly half-breed that can't take care of himself and flounders around with a man on his back, it gives one pause.

Imagine what a joy it would be to have a Troop, a whole Troop, of horses from 15.1 to 15.2 with beautiful heads, high set tails, strong blocky bodies, short backs, wiry legs, capable of carrying 240 pounds of man and equipment over all kinds of terrain, day after day, with only about half a ration, and water when you find it. And they keep in condition regardless of weather, roads, loads,

distances, or feed and water! (The greatest pack horse I ever saw was only 14.2—he carried the picket line pack for 12 years!)

If you are at all interested in any breed of horse, don't fail to read this book, for it traces all the various breeds of today back to their fountain head—the Arabian.

The book itself is beautifully done. About 10 by 12 inches, with large print, double spaced, and with over two hundred sketches, photographs and reproduced paintings, it is truly a collector's gem, and should be in every horseman's library.

~ ~ ~

(For attention of those members of the gentler sex who read the CAVALRY JOURNAL.)

**TOMORROW THE ACCOLADE.** By Janet Deitrick.  
Doubleday, Doran, and Company. \$2.00.

*Reviewed by Christine Harbour.*

*Tomorrow the Accolade*, by the author of *Parade Ground*, is the story of Judy MacGee and Bill Deane during the first few years of married life in the Army. A

couple of Army children, who had developed a fondness for each other, married at West Point on Bill's graduation day. Of his own accord Bill would not have chosen the Army for his profession. However, he lacked the determination to resist his father's and Judy's pressure; so he gave his half-hearted interest to the service.

From the beginning, one misfortune follows another in unnatural proportion. From a six-month honeymoon spent with Bill in the hospital, through the enlightening realization that a 2d Lieutenant's quarters are less comfortable than a Colonel father's, and on to the antics of an exceptional and ruthless Commanding Officer, the author depicts this young couple and their many difficulties and jealousies.

The book is light fiction with much chatty conversation, much Army slang, and insufficient perspective. It is supposed to be typical of life at an Army Post. Instead, it is an imaginary narrative whose characters lack the courage or stamina to face reality either in or out of the Army.

A book can be only as strong as the characters that it portrays.

*THE YOUTH OF TODAY has been fed so much upon a diet of peace-at-any-price, and the inherent wickedness of resistance to armed aggression at the hands of an enemy reared with quite other conceptions, that it is a never-ceasing source of wonder that appointments to the Military Academy can still be filled. China is now reaping the somewhat questionable benefit accruing from such doctrine and at the hands of an enemy people whose youth is nourished upon stronger food.*—MAJOR HENRY LEONARD.

The United States Cavalry Association,  
1624 H Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Please send me ..... copies of CAVALRY COMBAT.

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(Rank and Organization)



## ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

### 1st Cavalry (Mechanized) Fort Knox, Kentucky

COLONEL BRUCE PALMER, *Commanding*

October 31st marked the end of a busy, as well as a successful summer training period, and the beginning of what promises to be as busy a winter training period.

Kentucky winters are always more or less uncertain; and it has been anticipated that routine training will be interrupted frequently by inclement weather, demonstrations, tests of arms and equipment and work projects. To that end, flexible schedules have been provided so as to provide for the maximum of training of troops and to facilitate more rapid development during fair weather. Enough outdoor work is being carried on in inclement weather to assure the ability of the troop to turn out and operate under any weather conditions. Every advantage of open weather is being taken to further training which can not be carried on indoors.

In addition, winter schools are being conducted for the Officers of the Regiment in mechanized tactics and operations; mechanical training (basic and advanced) and in chemical warfare. Noncommissioned Officers' Schools are being conducted in combat principles; tactics of mechanization; duties incident to domestic disturbances; map reading; reconnaissance; march discipline, etc. Also, the usual schools for the training of specialists are being conducted. Schools are the order of the day.

A pistol league, made up of two teams from each troop, has been organized and shooting started on December 1st. Each troop has entered an "A" team, made up of any member of the troop including officers; and a "B" team, open only to men of the troop serving in their first enlistment. "A" teams fire only against "A" teams, "B" teams only against "B" teams. Suitable prizes have been procured and competition is keen. It is anticipated that a large number of excellent shots will be developed from which a championship team may be selected to represent the regiment in the Post League. Captain Richard B. Evans is in charge of the teams.

Each troop has likewise organized basketball and bowling teams and schedules are in full swing.

On November 11th, Regimental Headquarters, Troop "A," Troop "B," and Machine Gun Troop with Lieutenant Colonel Jack W. Heard commanding, participated in an Armistice Day Parade in the city of Louisville, Kentucky. Much favorable comment was aroused by the splendid appearance of both men and vehicles.

November 16th, the 1st Squadron, under command of Captain H. A. Sears, left Fort Knox on a practice

march which took it north of the Ohio River into Indiana. They returned that night having marched a distance of 265 miles.

On December 10th and 11th, the Staff, Faculty and Student Body of the Air Corps Tactical School from Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Alabama, visited the Post to observe and become familiar with the organization and tactics of a mechanized force. The Regiment participated in a Brigade Road Review and took part in a tactical demonstration which had been arranged for the occasion. Several social functions were held in honor of the visitors.

On December 20th, the 1st Cavalry furnished the Military Escort, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John F. Davis, for the funeral of the late Ambassador Robert W. Bingham in Louisville, Kentucky. There were many complimentary comments on the excellen appearance of the men.

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### 3d Cavalry (less 1st Squadron)—Fort Myer, Va.

COLONEL J. M. WAINWRIGHT, *Commanding*

The regiment went into active preparation about November 1st for the Friday Afternoon Exhibition Drills which are held each week during the months of January, February, and March.

The first Exhibition Drill was held on January 14th with Major General Albert J. Bowley, Commanding General Third Corps Area as the Guest of Honor. General Bowley was accorded a thirteen gun salute upon his arrival at the Fort Myer Gate and was escorted to the Colonel Wainwright's quarters for luncheon by a specially designated Escort of Honor from the Machine Gun Troop, 10th Cavalry. He was later escorted to the Riding Hall where he inspected the escort.

In the Friday afternoon programs, the 3d Cavalry carries the bulk of the exhibitions with eight out of eleven events as follows:

Squadron Entrance and Salute—2d Squadron with Machine Gun Troop attached.

Musical Drill, Troop E.

Rodeo Exhibition, Troop F.

Jumping Tandems, Troop F.

Machine Gun Troop Drill, Machine Gun Troop.

Mounted Gymnastics, Machine Gun Troop.

Bridleless Ride, Headquarters Troop.

Noncommissioned Officers Jumping exhibition, all troops.

A similar drill was held on January 21st in honor of the

Chief of Cavalry, Major General Leon B. Kromer. Among other drills which will be held are those in honor of the Chief of Field Artillery, Senate and House Military Committees, the Navy, Diplomatic Corps and the Army War College.

Major A. W. Roffe, 3d Cavalry, is Horse Show Manager for the series of Winter Horse Shows which will be held monthly in the Riding Hall throughout the winter months. Up to February 1st all horse show activities were centered on the President's Birthday Horse Show which was held in conjunction with other President's Birthday celebrations in the Riding Hall on the nights of February 1st and 2d. Proceeds will be devoted to the care, prevention and treatment of Infantile Paralysis.

The distinguished list of Exhibitors for the show was headed by the First Lady of the Land, herself, Mrs. Roosevelt.

In addition to the usual classes for hacks, hunters and jumpers, there were several exhibitions each night in which the Troop E Musical Drill and the Headquarters Troop Bridleless Drill were shown.

Authority has just been received to move the Cavalry Concurrent Summer Training Camps from Fort Myer to Fort Belvoir, Virginia. A new site has been selected which is satisfactory to both Commanding Officers concerned and plans are now under way for the establishment of the camp.

The new site, which will require some clearing, is located in the woods, where there will be abundant shade from the heat of the summer sun.

At the present time plans and estimates, subject to War Department approval, include a five unit camp consisting of combined mess halls and kitchens and combined bath houses and latrines with a small headquarters and supply building.

Ample drill and recreation space will be available and it is felt that the camp will be a great improvement over the limited facilities which the small reservation of Fort Myer has to offer.

### 1st Squadron, 3d Cavalry— Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont

LIEUTENANT COLONEL THOMAS H. REES, JR.,  
*Commanding*

Soon after the departure of the Corps Area Inspector, the snow set in according to traditional Vermont winters. By the first week in December there was considerable snow on the ground and the moving picture cameraman came for their annual photographs of the Squadron charging the legions of General Jack Frost.

Representatives of Pathé, Universal, and Fox spent the best part of two days photographing the Squadron and a battery of the 7th Field Artillery. Some excellent pictures were obtained which were later shown at the War Department theatre.

On December 16th the Squadron marched to the Artil-

lery Range, ate lunch there and returned the same afternoon, a total distance of twenty-eight miles. The temperature was 27 degrees and there was ten inches of snow on the ground. Men and animals made the round trip in excellent condition.

The first Gymkhana of the winter season was held in the riding hall on the evening of December 23d before a large and enthusiastic audience. The events were as follows:

#### *Event No. 1—Musical Chairs:*

In this event there were five entries from each troop. First place was won by Pvt. DeMello, Troop A; 2d place, Pvt. J. F. Ross, Troop A; 3d place, Pvt. 1 cl. Guevin, Troop A; 4th place, Pvt. Cliche, Troop B.

#### *Event No. 2—Noncommissioned Officers' Jumping:*

Entries were limited to five from each troop. Horses which placed in the Montreal or Boston shows were not used as Colonel Rees is encouraging the development of new jumpers. The course consisted of eight varied jumps not exceeding 3' 6". First place was won by Sgt. Roy Wood on *Town Gossip*; 2d place, Corp. Orso on *Banjo*; 3d place, Sgt. Northrup on *Bud*; 4th place, Corp. Mihalyo on *Sandalwood*.

#### *Event No. 3—Equipment Race:*

This event was a competition between two teams from each troop. The teams first galloped the length of the hall, unsaddled, pitched shelter tents and laid out equipment. Time was taken on this phase, then "Taps" was blown and the men retired inside their tents. "Call to Arms" was sounded and time again began to count. Tents were struck, saddles were packed and teams raced to starting point. The men then dismounted and fired a round of blank ammunition to signal the end of this phase. Total time was taken for each team. First place was won by Team No. 1, Troop A, composed of Corp. Orso and Pvt. 1 cl. Guevin; 2d place by Team No. 1, Troop B, composed of Corps. Amaral and Fay.

#### *Event No. 4—Bucking Barrel:*

This event showed *Dynamite* the bucking barrel at his best. *Dynamite* was slung from the rafters and four ropes were fastened to bolts in the barrel. This bucking contest was won by Pvt. W. H. Scott, Troop B, the winner in the previous Gymkhana, who stayed on for 38 3/5 seconds; 2d place Pvt. 1 cl. Mitchell, Troop B; 3d place Pvt. 1 cl. Thomas, Troop A.

#### *Event No. 5—"Fire Water":*

An original event worked out by the members of Troop B, was well received. The scene opened with a group of Indians around a camp fire. A trader entered and sold some "fire water." After drinking this the Indians jumped on their horses and gave an exhibition of trick riding, taking off various articles of clothing as their horses jumped an obstacle. The scene closed to find the veneer of civilization removed, much to the amusement of the audience.

**Event No. 6—Mounted Wrestling:**

In this were seen teams of five men from each troop. Free for all wrestling took place and the last man left mounted was Corp. Gallivan, Troop A; 2d place, Pvt. Larsen, Troop A; 3d place, Pvt. 1 cl. Goodheart, Troop A.

**Event No. 7—Officers' Jumping:**

This was an exhibition to develop jumpers that had not placed in Montreal or Boston shows. There was a course of varied jumps not over 3' 9". First place was won by Lt. R. W. Fuller, III, on *Greta*; 2d place, Capt. Jadwin on *Irene Colly*; 3d place, Major Constant on *Razor Back*; 4th place, Lt. Clark on *Chubby*.

**Event No. 8—Musical Ride:**

Troop A in this event gave an excellent exhibition of the combined training of horses and riders in an intricate drill which brought much applause from the spectators. The equipment and dress of the participants was a credit to the 3d Cavalry and was the subject of favorable comment.

The music for the Gymkhana was furnished by the band of the 7th Field Artillery which played special music secured for the occasion. These Gymkhanas have been very favorably received by the people of the surrounding community and not only help winter training but are also a factor in teaching the local public something about their Army in general and the mounted service in particular.

With riding hallwork, schools, small bore practice and other duties the time of a cavalryman at Fort Ethan Allen is fully occupied. In addition there is the novel experience of cutting ice and storing it in preparation for the summer months.

An event of importance to the Squadron was the announcement from the Regimental Commander that the Detachment, Headquarters Troop at Fort Ethan Allen had been increased to twenty men. This now gives us for the first time adequate personnel to function properly as a detached squadron without taking personnel from troops.

**4th Cavalry—Fort Meade, South Dakota**

COLONEL ROBERT C. RODGERS, *Commanding*

Colonel Robert C. Rodgers accompanied by Mrs. Rodgers and son arrived on the post on January 6, and assumed command of the post and regiment. Colonel Rodgers came from Chicago, where he had been on duty with the Organized Reserves.

The first of the series of monthly winter Horse Shows was held in the riding hall on the afternoon of November 26. The program consisting of two jumping classes for enlisted men, an open hunter class for officers, a ladies' hack class, and an exhibition of novelty jumping by Troop B.

Private 1 cl. Rynearson, Troop F on *Lucky* won the Handicap Jumping for enlisted men; Corporals Goman and Green, Troop B, on *Hindu* and *Bon Bon*, the Pair

Jumping; Lieutenant Clow on *Cimaron*, won the Open Hunters' class and Miss Ina Sidwell on *Brown Cat*, owned by Lieutenant Culp, won the Ladies' Hack class.

The December Horse Show, held on the thirtieth, included a handicap jumping class for enlisted men, a remount jumping class for enlisted men, an officers' charger class, a children's horsemanship class, and an exhibition musical drill by Troop F. The riding hall was crowded with the many civilian friends who came to see the show. Corporal Cameron, Troop E, on *Seminole* won the Remount Jumping class for enlisted men, Lieutenant Colonel Nye on *Sanderfield* won the Officers' Charger class, Norma Anderson on *Charlie* won the Children's class and Corporal Eastman, MG Troop, on *Bison* won the Handicap class for enlisted men.

The winter training program includes a stimulating and informative class in advance tactics and current events for the officers of the regiment. The class meets on Monday afternoons. Lectures by various selected officers bring the military situations in China and Spain and the world political situation up to date. The lectures are followed by a discussion of the tactical problem assigned to the class the preceding week, and a presentation of a new tactical problem to be worked out individually by the members of the class.

In October the post was fortunate to receive seven hounds from Fort Robinson, Nebraska, to form the nucleus of the pack of the Black Hills Hunt. Under the direction and management of Lieutenant William W. Culp, M.F.H., drag hunts have been held regularly on Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings. Riding to hounds is an innovation for this post, and a great deal of interest has been displayed. The Staff of the Black Hills Hunt: Master of Fox Hounds, Lieutenant William W. Culp; Honorary Whips, Captain H. C. Hines, Jr., Lieutenants John F. Rhoades and Robert J. Quinn, Jr.; Permanent Field Master, Major Charles R. Chase; Huntsmen, Corporal Garvin Jones and Private First Class Richard Stevenson.

The first half of the winter athletic season came to its conclusion on December 20. Competition in both basketball and bowling has been close, but Headquarters Troop has the distinction of leading the bowling league and of being tied for first place in the basketball league in the mid-season standings.

The basketball material on the post this year proved so promising that a post team, was formed under the supervision and coaching of Lieutenant Walter Halverson, assisted by Staff Sergeant Edward W. Maddox, QMC. The squad includes the outstanding players on all of the organization teams. The team has played twelve games, winning eight and losing four by narrow margins. The opponents include college teams, independent teams, the First Infantry, the Twentieth Infantry, and the Seventy-Sixth Field Artillery.

The Thomason Act Officers gave the regular officers a lesson in basketball on November 24, in a challenge game winning 42-14. Captain Martin A. Fennell excelled in

floor play for the losers. After the game the short-enders entertained the ladies and officers of the post with a buffet supper at the club.

The challenging habit among the officers of the post has been growing rapidly the past few months, finally culminating in a challenge from the "Square Parts" (officers of the staff branches) who lost a bowling match to the 4th Cavalry officers on January 11th.

Lieutenant Charles C. W. Allen and family reported for duty with the 4th Cavalry on January 15, 1938 and has been assigned to Headquarters Troop. Lieutenant Allen recently returned from the Philippines.

### Hunting at Fort Meade

It was due to the enthusiasm of Colonel Stanley Koch and his whole hearted coöperation that the Post of Fort Meade formally opened its first hunting season on November 21, 1937. It was but three weeks after the close of the highly successful and entertaining Fort Meade-Black Hills Horseshow, and with the customary esprit, love of sport and sportsmanship of this regiment, a large and enthusiastic field was present for the first meeting. A few short remarks were made by the Master, and the more important points and hints were briefly touched upon by the Post Commander, Colonel Koch.

Since the opening of the season, many good runs—thus far confined to "drag"—have been enjoyed by members of the garrison. Plentiful and varied terrain, with coöperation from the Commanding Officer and enthusiasm from the staff and all members of the Hunt, have made for much enjoyable sport. Throughout the Fall, and thus far in the Winter, the weather has smiled upon us—and many has been the morning and afternoon when the crisp outdoors of the Black Hills has resounded to horn and sweet music of the "tongue." Hunt breakfasts, suppers and other gatherings—echoing to "John Peel," "A-Hunting We Will Go," and "Drink! Puppy, Drink!"—have added to the enjoyment of all concerned, and have added to the enthusiasm for this exhilarating sport—"one of the oldest sports in history, which has come down to us through the ages with many traditions and customs."

The Black Hills Hunt wishes to afford itself of this opportunity to acknowledge publicly the kindness of the Hunt of Fort Robinson, Nebraska, in presenting us with our pack, at present small, but keen, lively and active. The Master wishes to acknowledge also the kindness of the M.F.H., The Cavalry School Hunt, for much information and help; it was from this source that was

gathered much of the text published in this Hunt's first Bulletin, very similar to "Hunting Terms, Hints, Points to Observe," published in the last edition of The CAVALRY JOURNAL.

The Black Hills Hunt Bulletin of November 30, 1937, announced the staff as follows:

M.F.H., 1ST LIEUT. W. W. CULP.

Honorary Whippers-In, CAPT. H. C. HINE, JR.; 2ND LIEUT. J. F. RHOADES; 2ND LIEUT. R. J. QUINN, JR.

Permanent Master of the Field, MAJOR C. R. CHASE.

Kennel Huntsmen, CORP. G. J. JONES; PVT. 1ST CL. R. M. STEVENSON.

Fixtures were published in the early Fall—the Hounds meet twice weekly, and with existing enthusiasm it is hoped that the Black Hills Hunt has taken its permanent and deserved place in the sport of Fort Meade.

—"Gone Away!"—"Tally Ho!"—

### 5th Cavalry—Fort Clark, Texas

COLONEL ROBERT C. RICHARDSON, JR., *Commanding*

With the return of our contingent from the Proposed Infantry Division Tests, the reunited 5th Cavalry has swung unto full stride in preparation for the coming Division maneuvers. It has many laurels to defend, and plans to return with a few more.

Several of the new "stable shacks" have been completed. They are truly swanky clubs, complete with showers and other comforts of home. The reconstruction of all these buildings, when completed, will undoubtedly be the outstanding achievement at Fort Clark in years.

Polo and other horse sports have been brought to a virtual halt lately by an unusually protracted rainy spell. At present the only horse activities of note aside from the intensive field training are the Officers' Equitation Class and the Non-commissioned Officers' Equitation Class. Under the expert instruction of Captains Raguse and Curtis, these classes have shown development, and in turn have made a noticeable improvement in the horsemanship of the regiment as a whole.

Worthy of more than mere mention is a contribution to Fort Clark by Captain Raguse that could well outlast him. With salvage materials he has built an outdoor course of jumps in the pecan grove on Las Moras Creek just above the riding hall. The obstacles are many and varied, they are easily adjusted to any desired dimensions, they are as durable as the Roman Aqueducts, and they are so placed and constructed as to please not only the horseman but the landscape artist.

Recent additions to Fort Clark are as follows:

Major George D. Wiltshire

Major Gordon J. F. Heron

Captain Alan L. Fulton

Captain William H. Nutter

Lieutenant Kelton S. Davis

Lieutenant Richard E. Nelson



Black Hill Hunt: M.F.H., pack and field.

Lieutenant George H. Minor  
Lieutenant Edwin A. Russell, Jr.

The regimental motors are still in process of rehabilitations from the punishment they underwent in the Proposed Infantry Division Tests.

Incidentally, the 5th Cavalry elements in the Proposed Infantry Division distinguished themselves and brought added glory to the regiment. Whether they participated as scout car crews, motorcyclists, or truck drivers, whether they served under their own officers, other cavalry officers, or officers of other branches, they won admiration and praise from many sources.

### 7th Cavalry—Fort Bliss, Texas

COLONEL JOHN K. HERR, *Commanding*

Although the inter-troop basketball league was postponed this year, it got off to a good start in December and the first half was completed before the New Year with Troop "A" the winner. The second half is now going on and, at its conclusion, the regimental champions will be determined. This team will then compete with other regimental or unit champions to determine the champion troop or battery team of the post before the start of the inter-regimental series.

The Seventh Cavalry's entry in the float division of the Sun Carnival Parade in El Paso on New Year's Day won first place in the first division. The float depicted a scene by Remington called "The Last Stand" and represented the rôle played by the Garry Owens in the conquest of the west. In addition the regiment furnished the Scout Car Platoon and a part of the Transportation Platoon of Headquarters Troop, as well as heralds and the entire Band.

Lt. Harry Wilson, Son of Col. A. H. Wilson, and Molly Polk, daughter of Lt. Col. Harding Polk, were united in marriage at the Loretto Chapel on November 26th. Following the wedding ceremony a reception was held at the Fort Bliss Officer's Club.

A daughter was born to 2d Lt. and Mrs. Creighton W. Abrams on December 22nd.

A son was born to Captain and Mrs. John L. DePew on January 6th. Consequently, quite a few habitual cigarette smokers were observed enjoying cigars the latter part of December and the first part of January.

Combined training was somewhat late in starting this year, but good progress has already been made. Combat formations, three regimental field exercises, a brigade exercise and a division exercise together with Officers' and Non-commissioned officers' school fully occupied the period from November 20th to the Christmas holidays. Two days were spent at Dona Ana Target Range in known distance firing and squad combat problems for rifle units. Machine Gun units and the Scout Car Platoon held combat exercises in addition to cal. .50 machine gun firing.

From the individual picked platoons of each troop in

the regiment the platoon of Troop A commanded by 2d Lt. Albert B. Turner, was declared the winner of the Cavalry Leadership Test for Small Units which was held during the month of December. At the conclusion of the various tests, the enthusiasm and competitive spirit of all competitors was commented upon by the regimental commander as well as the comparatively close final scores.

The Officers bowling team continues to stay on top at the Tuesday evening meetings at the Army Y.M.C.A. in El Paso. An enlisted man's league of a team from each troop has been started and quite a few games rolled, although the future champions cannot be guessed at thus far.

### 8th Cavalry—Fort Bliss, Texas

COLONEL INNIS P. SWIFT, *Commanding*

During the period Nov. 15-25, all personnel of the regiment (8 officers and 200 EM) who were at San Antonio participating in the PID Test returned to Fort Bliss.

Major W. R. Stickman has been assigned to the regiment and detailed as Asst. Post Exchange officer. Capt. H. I. Hodes joined and assumed command of Tr. E. Capt. R. A. Gardner, another new arrival in the regiment is commanding Tr. F.

On Nov. 29, the regiment participated in a Review for Major General W. G. Holmes of the British Army.

With the return of the detachment from the PID Test, all troops immediately began preparation for the Cavalry Leadership Test.

On the morning of Dec. 30th the regiment, as a part of the 1st Cavalry Division, took part in a review at Fort Bliss for the Sun Carnival being held in El Paso. In the afternoon it took part in an informal horse show, conducted by the 1st Cavalry Division, for the entertainment of the many visitors in El Paso for the Sun Carnival.

Results:

#### CLASS I—Inter-Unit Team Jumping.

- 1st—Eighth Cavalry Team.
- 2nd—Seventh Cavalry Team.
- 3rd—Division Troops Team.

#### Individual Places:

- 1st, *Sotol*, ridden by Corp. Gann, Tr. A, 8th Cav.
- 2d, *Bashful*, ridden by Lt. Palmer, 8th Cav.
- 3d, *Sis*, ridden by Corp. Black, MG Tr., 8th Cav.
- 4th, *Stroll Along*, ridden by Sgt. Sanders, Tr. F, 8th Cav.

#### CLASS II—Mounted Wrestling.

- Tie for 1st and 2d between Pvts. Scoggins and Bentley, both MG Tr., 8th Cav.
- 3d—Pvt. Carleton, Tr. B, 8th Cav.
- 4th—Pvt. Cagle, Btry D, 82d FA.

#### CLASS III—Ladies Hacks.

- 1st—*Hi Hat*, ridden by Mrs. W. B. Bradford.

- 2d—*Rumba*, ridden by Miss Miller.  
 3d—*Top Kick*, ridden by Mrs. Wilson.  
 4th—*Stroll Along*, ridden by Miss Betty Forster.

**CLASS IV—Open Jumping.**

- 1st—*Kaiser*, ridden by Sgt. Sanders, Tr. F, 8th Cav.  
 2d—*Sinbad*, ridden by Lt. Growden, 7th Cav.  
 3d—*Jimmy Hix*, ridden by Sgt. Odess, MG Tr., 8th Cav.  
 4th—*Buddy*, ridden by Corp. Gann, Tr. A, 8th Cav.

**CLASS V—Musical Chairs.**

- 1st—Corp Ferguson, Tr. A, 7th Cav.  
 2d—Corp Bondurant, MG Tr., 7th Cav.  
 3d—Pvt. Smith, Tr. A, 8th Cav.  
 4th—Pvt. Daniels, Hq. Tr., 8th Cav.

A car load of remounts recently arrived from El Reno. To permit all lieutenants in the regiment to actually train a remount, the new horses were drawn for by lot and assigned as drawn to each lieutenant. A course of remount training, to be completed in May, 1938, has been inaugurated under the supervision of Major W. T. Bauskett. A remount test will be conducted at the completion of the training period and a suitable trophy awarded to the winner.

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### 9th Cavalry—Fort Riley, Kansas

LIEUTENANT COLONEL CUTHBERT P. STEARNS,  
*Commanding*

On November 25, 1937, the Ninth Cavalry Indians journeyed to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to meet their rivals, the Tenth Cavalry Buffaloes, in the final foot ball game of the season. The game was played before 5,000 persons and resulted in the Indians defeating the Tenth Cavalry by the most decisive score since 1933. The former scored two touchdowns to the latter one. The Ninth Cavalry launched a running attack that had the Buffaloes on the run throughout the game. The team ended its season undefeated and untied.

Christmas eve the officers and men of the regiment were assembled at the War Department Theatre by the Executive Officer Lieut. Colonel Joseph M. Tully, for a short Christmas program. Chaplain Caver read to the men the scripture story of the birth of Christ. Lieut. Colonel Stearns, Regimental Commander, then spoke on what Christmas should mean to the army and the regiment. He referred to the crossing of the Delaware by George Washington and the fall of Trenton, also of the memorable campaign of the Ninth Cavalry which started from Pine Ridge Agency Christmas eve in 1890 and culminated at the Battle of Drexel Mission some days later. During this campaign the Ninth Cavalry, under General Guy V. Henry, the father of the present Commandant of the Cavalry School, rode 108 miles in thirty-four hours. During this period they fought two engagements and rested only two hours. At Drexel Mission they rescued their comrades of the Seventh Cavalry who were being rapidly surrounded by Indians. At the conclusion of Colonel

Stearns' address the band, under the leadership of Warrent Officer Clarke, played Christmas carols with the regiment singing.

At Christmas the football team was presented silver and bronze footballs with the individual names of the players engraved thereon and the inscription "1937 Champions." The baseball team received baseballs similarly engraved for winning the Fort Riley Post Championship.

First Sergeant Elmer C. Smith and Staff Sergeant Charles Hardesty were placed on the retired list of the Army December 31, 1937. The former was retired as a 2d Lieutenant. As in the past, a regimental dance was held in their honor. Prior to the dance a farewell address was given by Lieutenant Colonel Stearns, after which the two retiring noncommissioned officers were presented with farewell gifts by the regiment.

Recruit Henry Turner, Troop E, shot so well on the range during the supplementary target practice that he has been selected to enter training prior to the tryout for the Cavalry Rifle Team.

The First Boxing Smoker of the season was staged Tuesday night January 11, 1938 at the Post Gymnasium. The regiment was represented by Private 1st Class Jeffrey Hamilton, Troop G, who drew with Reeves of Co. 786, CCC, in a three round exhibition. Private Charlie (Hooker) Lewis, Troop C, won over Johnson, CCC, by a technical knock-out in the second round while Private Dwight H. Cowans, Troop C, knocked out Grizzley Green of the CCC, in the second round of a three round bout. We are looking ahead to a successful boxing season.

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### 10th Cavalry (less 2d Squadron and M.G. Troop)—Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

LIEUTENANT COLONEL N. B. BRISCOE, *Commanding*

The Thanksgiving Day football game with the Ninth Cavalry was won by the Ninth by a score of 13 to 7. Following the game the Tenth entertained the large contingent of Ninth Cavalry visitors at a buffet Thanksgiving dinner at the Headquarters Troop Mess and a dance at the Club.

Chaplain L. C. Tiernan reported for duty at this station November 12, 1937, and was attached to the Tenth Cavalry. We are very glad to have Chaplain Tiernan on our roster.

The regiment received many Christmas greetings from Army organizations and from former members of the regiment, especially former regimental commanders. The Regimental Christmas Tree was held at three o'clock December 24th and after a very beautiful song service by the choir Santa Claus arrived promptly with presents for all the children.

Captain Palmer, an experienced competition shot, is coaching our small bore team. The first match, with Company I, 17th Infantry, resulted in a win for the Tenth. Several matches, both local and by mail, will be fired during the winter months.

Once each month from November to April, a little horse show is put on at the Lower Riding Hall. These informal shows are largely for the recreation of the ladies and children of the Post. They are held on Saturday evenings and are well attended. The results of this year's second show, held on December 18th, were as follows:

**CLASS I—Second Girls Riding Class**—1st, Dorothy Stamps riding *Miss Ashton*; 2nd, Virginia Allyn riding *Small Change*; 3rd, Francis Eberle riding *Lucy Lee*; 4th, Lenore Ring riding *Laughing Water*.

**CLASS II—Second Boys' Riding Class**—1st, Milo McCune riding *Handel*; 2nd, Henry Claterbos riding *Mendicant*; 3rd, Douglas Weart riding *Blaze*; 4th, John Heavey riding *Rose*.

Special Event—Indoor Polo—Scores, C&GSS Students 4, 10th Cavalry 3.

**CLASS III—Ladies' Advanced Intermediate Class**—1st, Mrs. Milliner riding *Pingston*; 2nd, Miss Giles riding *Happy Creek*; 3rd, Mrs. McPherson riding *Maybe So*; 4th, Mrs. Evans riding *High Hat*.

**CLASS IV—Handicap Jumping**—1st, Major Lambert riding *Lucky River*; 2nd, Mr. V. Ellis riding *Dumb Dora*; 3rd, Miss Honeycutt riding *Pimlico*; 4th, Mrs. Bradley riding *June Dillon*.

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## 11th Cavalry—Presidio of Monterey, California

COLONEL TROUP MILLER, *Commanding*

Brigadier General Alfred T. Smith, Commanding the 3rd Division, Fort Lewis, Washington, visited the post on December 8, 1937 for the purpose of inspecting the 2nd Battalion, 76th Field Artillery. A post review was scheduled for General Smith as a courtesy. Troop "F" of the 11th Cavalry furnished the escort while the Regiment participated in the review. General Smith expressed himself as well pleased with his inspection and, after his departure, sent the following tribute to the Regimental Commander in a personal letter:

"In connection with my inspection on December 9th, 1937, of the elements of the Third Division under your command at the Presidio of Monterey, California, I desire first to express my appreciation of the escort and the general review of post troops you accorded me.

Although my inspection was essentially of units of the Third Division I desire to commend you as post commander for your splendid garrison establishment which so fully meets the training, recreational and other needs of both the field artillery and cavalry.

Your marked cooperation with the elements of my division at the Presidio of Monterey is deeply appreciated I assure you.

The appearance of your personnel, animals, stables, barracks and installations fulfills the highest standards."

Troop rifle teams, in preparation for the formation of a Regimental Team, for preliminary training for the Cavalry Rifle Team, have been organized in all troops of the

Regiment, under the direction of 2nd Lieutenant Thomas D. Gillis. Small bore practice is being engaged in and it is expected that inter-regimental matches will be fired within a short time.

The new film, "Sergeant Murphy," was sent to the Presidio of Monterey for private showing to military personnel and their families on December 17, 1937. This picture, produced by Warner Brothers, Incorporated, is the story of a horse with "time" in the service. Military scenes shown in the picture were filmed at the post with the 11th Cavalry representing the regiment shown in the Cavalry scenes. Four showings of the preview were arranged to accommodate the entire garrison. There was no admission charge, members of the garrison being the guests of Warner Brothers.

The Winter Athletic Season, providing inter-organizational competition in various forms of athletics, is well under way being supervised by Major Harry L. Branson, Post Recreational Officer. Bowling and Basketball Leagues have been organized and match play started.

An inter-organizational boxing tournament, designed to determine the post boxing champions by organization as well as by individuals in all classes, has also made considerable progress. Four "Fight Nights" have been scheduled to date with ten separate matches per night. Much interest and enthusiasm has been shown by the garrison with all fights well attended.

An inter-organizational Post Field Day was held on November 26, 1937. The program scheduled nineteen separate events. Competition was close with Troop A, 11th Cavalry, Commanded by Captain Phillip B. Shotwell, emerging the victor.

Mounted athletic activities continue to furnish entertainment and recreation for both officers, enlisted men and families of the garrison. A Gymkhana with 14 events was held on December 22, 1937 just prior to the Christmas Holiday Season. On January 9, 1938 the Regimental Commander led a controlled ride through the trails of the Del Monte Forest. The ride, participated in and thoroughly enjoyed by officers of the garrison and their families, terminated at the Officers' Club where luncheon was served.

A new point to point course, through the courtesy of the Del Monte Properties Company, has been constructed on the Del Monte Hotel Grounds for use by troops of the command. The course was laid out and jumps installed under the supervision of Major Charles H. Gerhardt.

Informal monthly horse shows continue to be held. Competition is keen and much enthusiasm over the shows is evident. The Post Polo Team continues with practice and play and has entered in the Tournament now being held by the Del Monte Hotel.

Changes in personnel since publication of the last number of the *CAVALRY JOURNAL* are as follows:

Major Norman N. Rogers retired from active service on December 31, 1937.

Major James E. Slack assigned to the Regiment from Fort McDowell joined on December 20, 1937, and assumed command of the 1st Squadron.

Major James C. Ward is now on retirement leave prior to his retirement on March 31, 1938.

First Lieutenant William H. Thompson tendered his resignation as an officer of the Army on January 7, 1938.

First Lieutenant Travis L. Petty has been transferred to the Chemical Warfare Service.

### 12th Cavalry (less 2d Squadron)— Fort Brown, Texas

COLONEL DONALD A. ROBINSON, *Commanding*

The past summer and fall at Fort Brown were exceptionally fine. There was very little rain and the Rio Grande remained low. As a result the polo and drill fields beyond the inner levee were in excellent shape.

The record made during target season was splendid. Headquarters Troop, 1st Lieutenant Richard A. Smith, commanding, fired 54 men, having one unqualified and 11 expert riflemen. Troop A, Captain Basil L. Riggs, commanding, fired 96 men, having one unqualified and 29 experts. Troop B, Captain Otto R. Stillinger, commanding, fired 95 men, having 3 unqualified and 38 experts. The Machine Gun Troop, Captain Gordon S. Armes, commanding, had no men unqualified and 36 expert gunners out of 57 men firing the machine gun course.

Training has progressed rapidly. In addition to individual and troop training, many Squadron and Regimental field exercises, including night marches and exercises, have been held. Combat firing exercises have been conducted monthly at Boca Chica.

Sixty remounts have been received from Fort Reno and are undergoing systematic training. Twenty more are expected in the near future and another group of eighty about April 1st. The last consignment will bring the regiment close to authorized strength.

Recruiting has been intensified in the past month with the result that Fort Brown Troops are now up to authorized strength.

During the summer and fall monthly Horseshows were held. Many civilians entered. During December, the Fort Brown Horseshow Team participated in shows at Weslaco, Harlingen and Fort Ringgold, winning many trophies and ribbons. A Horseshow, in which Fort Ringgold will participate, is scheduled at Fort Brown for January 29th. Jumping prospects are being developed. A new jumping course has been laid out, utilizing the ramparts of Old Fort Brown and the inner levee as natural obstacles.

At the annual meeting of the Fort Brown Polo Club, Major Harry A. Buckley was elected Team Captain. An active season has been planned.

Renovation work at Fort Brown continues. The river road has been widened and raised. In the near future it will be raised another 2 feet, which it is hoped, will prevent flood waters of the Rio Grande inundating the drill grounds. A splendid range has been built against the inner levee. Post Headquarters has been completely renovated, inside and out. A new combination basketball and tennis

court has been constructed. What with new roads and pavements, buildings renovated and painted, the post presents a changed and beautiful appearance.

At Camp Perry last summer, Sergeant William A. Locke, Troop A, won the Fort Bliss Trophy in the Chief of Cavalry Rifle Matches for the 1,000 yard championship.

Five officers and 132 enlisted men of the 12th Cavalry at both Forts Brown and Ringgold returned in November after over two months in the field participating in the Proposed Infantry Division Test Maneuvers at Fort Sam Houston.

The Fort Brown Baseball Troop League had a successful season, followed by a very interesting series of games played between the Post Team and teams from Fort Clark, Fort Ringgold, Fort McIntosh and Fort Sam Houston.

The basketball league ended with Troop B as champion. A junior league is now in progress. A post team has been selected to play a post team from Fort Ringgold after which a Regimental Team will be selected to play for the Brigade Championship.

Splendid fights were held every month up through November in the new fight arena. These fights were splendidly patronized by both civilians and soldiers.

December 23rd a very successful field and track meet was run off, Troop B scoring the most points.

Many changes in personnel have taken place here in the past six months.

Colonel and Mrs. Donald A. Robinson and their four children arrived August 16th direct from a leave in China following a tour of duty in the Philippines. Colonel Robinson completed a two year and two months detail as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, Headquarters Philippine Department on May 8th, and succeeded Colonel Kerr T. Riggs as commanding officer of the 12th Cavalry and Fort Brown.

Colonel and Mrs. Kerr T. Riggs and daughter left Fort Brown in June on leave prior to sailing, on September 11th, for the Panama Canal Department where Colonel Riggs has assumed the duties of Chief of Staff, Panama Department. Colonel and Mrs. Riggs left hosts of friends behind in Brownsville, all of whom regretted very much to see them leave.

Others departing were Lt. Colonel John P. Beeson, Medical Corps, for duty in Omaha, Nebraska, Captain Basil L. Riggs to the Cavalry School, Captain Raymond D. Palmer for Fort Leavenworth, and Lt. Colonel Fred-eric W. Whitney to the 95th Division in Oklahoma City. Major Philip C. Clayton leaves in February, on leave, preparatory to sailing in April for duty with the 26th Cavalry in the Philippines.

Lt. Colonel Harold M. Rayner, 12th Cavalry, Lt. Colonel William F. Sappington, Medical Corps, Major Lois C. Dill (Inf), Quartermaster Corps, Captains Benjamin A. Thomas, John R. Thornton, Charles H. Martin, Joseph M. Williams and 2nd Lt. McPherson LeMoyné, all 12th Cavalry, have reported for duty within the past few months.

Lieutenant LeMoyne returned from Christmas leave with his bride.

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### 2d Squadron, 12th Cavalry— Fort Ringgold, Texas

LIEUTENANT COLONEL F. C. V. CROWLEY, *Commanding*

The 2d Squadron, 12th Cavalry, made a practice march to Weslaco, Texas, and return, during the period December 7th to 10th, covering a total distance of 110 miles. On December 9th, while at Weslaco the squadron horseshow team participated in a horse show sponsored by the city of Weslaco. The morale and spirit of the command was excellent despite the fact that mist and rain prevailed throughout the march, necessitating a forced march from Weslaco covering the entire distance of 55 miles to Fort Ringgold on December 10th. The men and animals made the march in good shape and with no casualties.

On December 12th a Carnival was held throughout the day and night, during which a baseball game between Rio Grande City and a picked team from the post was played; a horseshow was held during the afternoon which included jumpers from Fort Brown, Fort Ringgold and civilians from the Lower Rio Grande Valley; commencing at 3:00 PM, and continuing until 9:00 PM, a dance was in progress with music furnished by the 12th Cavalry Band from Fort Brown. The Carnival was highly successful and the proceeds derived therefrom was divided between the Fort Ringgold Athletic Association and charity organizations in Rio Grande City; in addition to the above events, a barbecue was put on during the noon hour, expending 3,000 pounds of beef.

Major Arthur W. Drew, Medical Corps was assigned to this station on December 6th, upon his relief from duty in Panama. He was granted a 4 months' leave of absence and will not report for duty until late in April.

An extremely pleasant holiday season has come and gone. The day before Christmas saw the celebration of the Post Christmas tree with a very attractive program by the post Sunday School ably supervised by Captain John D. Morley and several officers wives, and the distribution of candy and gifts to all children of the garrison. Santa Claus was represented by First Sergeant Elmer Blank of Troop E, 12th Cavalry.

The soft ball diamond with its excellent lighting system offers excellent opportunity for everyone on the post to witness four nights per week keen competition between 7 good teams composing the post league. The league is composed of five post teams, 1 Rio Grande City team and 1 Sun Oil Company team. At present the league leader is the Sun Oil team, followed by Rio Grande City and 1st Platoon, Troop F, who are tied for 2nd place.

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### 13th Cavalry (Mechanized)—Fort Knox, Ky.

COLONEL CHARLES L. SCOTT, *Commanding*

Regimental Training has been devoted to Troop, Squad-

ron and Regimental problems, involving cross country work, marches and combat firing. Mild weather has permitted more outdoor work than in previous years and has been particularly helpful in training an over strength of new recruits.

Seventeen Officers now enrolled in the Brigade Motor School are engaged in a special course on the Combat Car.

Equipment is still lacking, particularly scout cars and trucks for all units.

A special unit has been organized under Lieutenant William B. Fraser, to train and try out for the Cavalry Rifle Team. Plans provide for competition with the 1st Cavalry at this station, to increase interest and competitive spirit.

Officers and men have had opportunity to engage in athletics during the winter season. For the officers, cross country rides, bowling and squash racquets. For the men, boxing, bowling and basketball. Machine Gun Troop and Troop "B" are now leading the North Post teams with clean records.

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### 26th Cavalry (PS)—Fort Stotsenburg, P. I.

COLONEL CLARENCE A. DOUGHERT, *Commanding*

The months of October and November were chiefly devoted to field training in preparation for maneuvers. In addition all machine gun elements of the regiment both light and heavy spent two weeks of most instructive practice at Olongapo, Zambales, firing at moving water targets.

The November Horseshow was well attended. Colonel, ridden by Captain Paul A. Ridge, again took the blue in the open jumping.

The Regimental Horseshow team won practically all the jumping events in the Philippine Department Horseshow held on November 26th and 27th. The Tamaraos eliminated the 26th Cavalry Polo team in a tournament held at the same time.

Troop "B" won the Regimental championship in Basketball but was defeated by the 24th F. A. for the post championship.

On November 23rd after considerable work in preparation, the 26th Cavalry broke a ten-year dominance of the 24th F. A. in Track and Field. The score was 26th Cavalry—64, 24th F. A.—60, other units—10. A marked improvement over last year's score which was 24th F. A.—88, 26th Cavalry—28.

Lieut. Colonel Herbert E. Taylor and 1st Lieut. Brainard S. Cook, are under orders for the States and will sail on the February transport. Other orders have assigned the following to duty in the Philippine Department:

Rank and Names

Captains Wilson, Garnett H., Burnside, Walter and Burcham, Clyde A.

1st Lieuts. Johnson, Marvin C., and McNally, Edward C.

**106th Cavalry—Illinois Detachment**

MAJOR RALPH G. GHER, *Commanding*  
CAPTAINS

W. A. Crookston, Springfield. M. Peter, Springfield.  
R. D. Keehn, Jr., Chicago. F. Sleeper, Chicago.  
M. Plaisted, Jr., Springfield. M. Flewelling, Urbana.

## FIRST LIEUTENANTS

W. F. Hewitt, Chicago. W. F. Kirby, Chicago.  
J. F. Homefeld, Urbana. H. R. Crowder, Springfield.  
J. Temple, Springfield.

## SECOND LIEUTENANTS

M. J. Shroyer, Urbana. P. Yoggerst, Springfield.  
R. Strauss, Chicago. C. Bean, Springfield.

## WARRANT OFFICER

T. J. Madden

The above details are given so that one may realize the geographical distance separating the units of the Illinois Detachment of the 106th Cavalry and the staff.

Headquarters Troop of Urbana, formerly Troop E, functions as a Headquarters Troop, having only 12 men who have not a specialists' rating. Two scout cars were received August 31, 1937, resembling the ones captured in the Second Army Maneuvers at Allegan, Michigan, by 2 Adjutants, 2 cooks, and 6 truck drivers with their trucks. These 2 cars had to be captured because they were annoying the horses. We later found out, in taking 30-3 of the Extension Course, that scout cars are vulnerable when traveling so close together.

Troop F of Springfield, commanded by Capt. Peter, with Fort Riley experience, has a long, honorable, and historical record. Forty-eight horses are used jointly by Troop F and Machine Gun Troop, the stables being in the State Fair Grounds. The Coliseum is available for drill and the excellent terrain permits Sunday patrol and scouting problems, in addition to 2 other weekly drills, plus non-commissioned Officers school on the 4th night.

Machine Gun Troop of Springfield, qualified 100% on the range. The range was recently built at old Camp Lincoln, where plans for a new armory have been drawn. Machine Gun Troop usually obtain a higher score during the Annual encampment at Camp Grant, than do competing Machine Gun Inf. Companies. The time spent in armory training is similar to Troop F's armory training. These 2 troops hold an annual Memorial Day Horse Show which has entries from many counties in Illinois. In 1937, the civilian entries were put in the American Legion Show, while the Memorial Day entries were entirely military. Every member of both troops cooperates in this show, the receipts from which, have been used in purchasing remounts and horse vans.

Troop E of Chicago, also known as the Chicago Black Horse Troop, was formed in 1929 due to the efforts of General Roy D. Keehn of the 33rd Division, Illinois National Guard; and a group of public spirited Chicagoans,

forming the Black Horse Troop Association. This troop is the escort troop for guests of the city and is commanded by an illustrious son of an illustrious father. The annual show has been held at the 124th F. A. Armory and includes a polo game with either Cornell University or Culver Military Academy.

Realizing the handicap of being without a riding hall for the last several years General Keehn has successfully requested Mayor Kelly to donate ground valued at \$500,000.00, immediately adjacent to the 122nd F. A. Armory as a site for a new armory which will house the Chicago Black Horse Troop and Mounted Band. The dress uniforms of this troop and band are similar to those of the Heavy Dragoons in the War of 1812. This uniform was purchased partly by the troopers and partly by the Chicago Black Horse Troop Association.

The Band is the Regimental Band of the 106th Cavalry and is attached to Troop E for administration and training.

The published experiences, in the *CAVALRY JOURNAL*, of the Mounted Band of the 123rd Cavalry, Kentucky National Guard, were noted with interest by the members of the Band.

The Band in its black and white uniforms, contrasted with the black horses, receives much applause on parade. Some Members of the Band plan jumping while playing their instruments at the Annual Show this spring.

The Regiment is highly appreciative of the splendid instruction given by Major Erskine A. Franklin (DOL) in the last two years.

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**112th Cavalry—Dallas, Texas**

COLONEL WALTER B. PYRON, *Commanding*

Troop "E" recently held its annual military circus and gymkhana at its drill field in Urbanville. Captain John A. Mann, the troop commander is receiving just congratulations for this excellent performance.

The program consisted of the following events: Silent mounted lance drill, (all troopers carried lances with yellow, red, and white flags), Novelty Jumping, Roman lance tournament competition, Rescue race, Demonstration of Platoon in a dismounted attack, Musical Chair Ride, Potato Race, Fire Jump.

Brigadier General Louis S. Davidson, commanding the 56th Cavalry Brigade, attended and was very much pleased at the splendid exhibition of horsemanship, displayed by the officers and men of Troop "E."

The Dallasites turned out en masse for the performance, and the cars were lined up three deep all around the drill field.

The Weekly News had a photographer on hand and took movies of the entire program. The pictures were later shown in all the Dallas theaters.

The Machine Gun Troop, Captain Louis A. Beecherl, Commanding, made a most successful night march and camp 27-28, November. The troop left its armory at 7:30 PM on the 27th, marched twenty-two miles, pitched

shelter tent camp, and returned to its armory on Sunday the 28th. March discipline, security, care of horses in the field, and defense against mechanization were stressed on this troop maneuver.

Captain Beecherl, who is a firm believer that speed in getting into action is most essential for Cavalry Machine guns, demonstrated in a test, held by the unit instructor, that he has trained his troop in compliance with that belief. First Lieut. Cowman's, platoon from the gallop, went into position and opened fire in nineteen seconds. This is fast going, and requires no lost motion.

Sergeants J. C. Reynolds and W. W. Cobb, both of Troop "A," are proudly displaying the silver trophies they recently received as winners of Brigade mounted pistol competition (Team class) held at Camp last summer. These Sergeants have a right to be proud as the course was most difficult and required good shooting and good riding.

Staff Sergeant John B. Menard, DEML. Sergeant Instructor of the regiment, and Master Sergeant William R. Shaw, Headquarters Troop, returned to duty on December 1st after completing the three months course at the Cavalry School, Fort Riley, Kansas. Both made fine records at the school, and were loud in their praise of the excellent instruction they received.

The regimental Medical Detachment at Mineral Wells, Texas, has recently been issued two new motor ambulances and Major Waldo B. Lasater, Commanding officer, is hard at work training his detachment in the duties reference to ambulance evacuation.

On December 13th, the enlisted men of the Medical Detachment, 112th Cavalry held their annual Christmas Banquet in the main dining room of the Baker Hotel. According to the newspapers this was a very elaborate affair and one of the outstanding Christmas parties of the season at Mineral Wells.

Major Waldo B. Lasater, Major William P. Cameron, Lieut. Allen B. Wallace, and 1st Sergeant Fred W. Parnell were the principal speakers of the evening.

The Blackstone Hotel at Tyler, Texas, was the scene on December 18th, of the Annual Christmas Banquet given the enlisted men of Troop F, 112th Cavalry, by the officers of the troop. This unique testimony of comradeship in arms has been a tradition in the troop for the past twenty years.

Captain Royal G. Phillips, Commanding Troop F, as toastmaster, handled the job in a most amusing, and masterful manner. One private was heard to remark, "He is damn near as good a Toastmaster as he is a Captain."

General Louis S. Davidson, the brigade commander, as principal speaker of the evening, complimented the officers and men of Troop "F" on their fine record and urged them to carry on.

After the Sunday drill on December 19th, Troop B, Captain William T. Starr, Commanding, held a Christmas Tree party in its armory at Camp Tommy Tompkins. A beautifully decorated and lighted Christmas tree adorned one end of the armory, where Sergeant Wil-

liam N. Bumpus, (chosen Santa Claus on account of his Santa Claus figure and disposition) dispensed presents to all the officers and men of Troop B.

Several changes have taken place in the personnel of the regiment since the last issue of the CAVALRY JOURNAL. Captain David T. Stafford by his own request has been transferred to the inactive Reserve. This was necessary on account of business activities which takes him to Corpus Christi, as Senior partner in the law firm of Judge Jas. B. Hubbard a well known Texas Law firm. Captain Stafford, who commanded Troop "B" has been a most excellent, active, energetic officer in the regiment since its organization and his loss is sincerely regretted.

The best wishes for success, from all members of the regiment goes with Captain Stafford on his new assignment.

The regiment also sincerely regrets the loss of 1st Lieut. Carroll R. Allen, and James I. Grant, two outstanding young officers who requested transfers to the Inactive Reserve on account of business activities.

The following promotions have recently been made in the regiment: First Lieut. William T. Starr to Captain, 2nd Lieuts. D. M. McMains and Thomas R. Houghton, to 1st Lieutenants.

Master Sergeant William R. Shaw, and Tech. Sergeant Elwood K. Morse, Headquarters Troop are taking examinations for the grade of 2nd Lieutenant.

The 112th Cavalry now has 100% membership in the Cavalry Association, which should be the status of every Cavalry Regiment.

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### 61st Division

#### 304th Cavalry—Long Island, N. Y.

COLONEL JOHN R. KILPATRICK, Cavalry-Reserve,  
Commanding

A program of regimental activities has been planned with the aim of developing organization "esprit," promoting better acquaintance and fellowship, and creating solidarity.

*A regimental competitive cross-country ride* was held on October 17th starting and finishing at the Round Hill Stables at Greenwich, Conn. The competitors were divided into two groups; a senior group open to majors and captains and a junior group open to first and second lieutenants. The course was twelve miles long with eighteen obstacles averaging 3½ feet in height. The judging was based on five phases: horsemanship (conduct and appearance in the saddle, mounting and dismounting), manner in negotiating obstacles, condition of mount at finish, pace (uniform rate of progress), and time over course (½ point deducted for each minute under or over 1½ hours).

Threatening weather limited the entries to eleven competitors with six captains and five lieutenants riding in the event. Captain James E. P. McNair was the winner of the trophy and blue ribbon in the Senior Group; 2nd, Captain Alston LeN. Sheppard; and 3rd, Captain Harry

Disston. Trophy and blue ribbon in the Junior Group was won by 2nd Lieut. William H. Bell; 2nd, 1st Lieut. Harry G. Stack (Med.); and 3rd, 2nd Lieut. Kenneth W. O'Hare. Lieut. Bell was awarded the Championship ribbon for the best score in both groups.

The regiment is grateful to the following officers who assisted Lt. Colonel J. F. Coneybear, regimental executive officer, in the judging: Captain Frank deK. Huyler, 303rd Cavalry, 1st Lieut. Bert Leonard and 2nd Lieut. Edward Meegan, both of the 101st Cavalry, New York National Guard, 1st Lieut. John Elliot and 2nd Lieut. F. White, both of the 303rd Cavalry.

Another regimental competition is planned for the Spring and, after further experience, the regiment hopes to meet other regimental teams.

*A Costume Ride* was staged on Thanksgiving morning at Great Neck, Long Island. Lieut. Harry Stack functioned as M. F. H. with Lieut. Leo Kurland and Lieut. Fred Siewers, 302nd Cavalry, as Whippers-In, in a fox hunt which was featured by the absence of both the fox and the hounds but in which the customs and courtesies of the sport were strictly observed. The pace was so fast and furious that one member of the Hunt came to grief in a violent collision with a low-hanging tree branch. A hilarious breakfast followed the ride.

*The Regimental Dinner* was held on November 29th at the Columbia University Club. Colonel John R. Kilpatrick and 30 members of the regiment attended with the following guests from the Division's staff of instructors: Colonel J. K. Brown, Lt. Colonel Richard Cooksey, Majors Catesby Jones and J. S. Rodwell. We regretted the unavoidable absence of our Chief of Staff, Colonel Geo. M. Russell.

The dinner was marked by the closeness with which the speakers adhered to the subjects assigned to them. Lt. Colonel John F. Coneybear by introducing the regimental commander with appropriate remarks. Colonel Kilpatrick spoke briefly of the regiment's history and of its "Lost Cause," namely, the unsuccessful effort (to date) of obtaining the Regimental Colors from the sovereign state of Oklahoma. He also recounted some personal experiences down on the Border in 1916. Colonel Brown was requested to speak on any subject except horse shows or polo but they managed to find their way into his talk. Lt. Colonel Cooksey, our unit instructor, did however avoid mention of the geisha girls of Japan where he served on Military Attache duty. Major Jones delivered a very subtle speech on "Pacifism." Major Rodwell's remarks in defence of his Texas birthplace were occasioned by Colonel Kilpatrick's previous story of the town.

The diners were entertained by a pianist whose repertoire included ditties about Colonel Kilpatrick and our guest. Some individual versions of "Songs My Mother Never Taught Me" were also rendered. Later, most of the officers accepted Colonel Kilpatrick's invitation to attend the Six-Day Bicycle Races at Madison Square Garden, of which he is president.

## 62d Cavalry Division

### 305th Cavalry—Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

COLONEL VINCENT A. CARROLL, Cavalry-Reserve,  
*Commanding*

By far the most interesting event of the inactive training period of the regiment proved to be the Christmas Horse Show. Ably conducted by Captain John Watson, acting as ringmaster, the show drew 21 entries.

Each officer drew lots for horses, changing horses with the man on his left after each course had been jumped. The three courses, over six jumps, presented a test of horsemanship sufficient to give the show interest and promote keen competition.

The judges were Major Douglas Grannis, Major Leslie Bell, and Lieutenant Shelley.

When the last entrant had cleared the course, the score showed the winners to be Captain Ray Love, Lieutenant Jim Gentle and Lieutenant Frank Howley.

After the show, the regiment gathered around the flowing bowl, radiating the cheer of the season.

On December 6th, a meeting of the 305th Cavalry Association was held in the historic First City Troop Armory. Under the toastmastership of our commanding officer, Colonel Vincent A. Carroll, the officers enjoyed a delicious dinner, replete with trimmings, as a prelude to the business of the evening.

During the ensuing meeting, reports of various committees were presented, with special commendation being given the entertainment committee headed by Captain Lacy, and assisted by Lieutenant Naftzinger. This committee has done yeoman service in making many of the regimental affairs successful.

Colonel Arthur H. Wilson, Cavalry, Unit Instructor, and Captain Morrow have collaborated to give the regiment a very interesting and constructive series of lectures based on the recent book "Cavalry Combat." Captain Morrow, under Colonel Wilson's direction, has drawn faithful enlargements of the various maps depicting the action of the cavalry groups engaged. Each week an officer of the regiment has been assigned a particular action described in the book, and with the aid of Captain Morrow's giant-size maps, has delivered a lecture on the tactical principles involved.

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### 2d Squadron, 306th Cavalry—Washington

MAJOR EDWARD B. HARRY, 306th Cavalry, *Commanding*

The Regiment has been very fortunate during the past two months in having favorable weather for outdoor riding of the regular equitation classes at Fort Myer, Virginia. With about forty officers and candidates in each class, valuable training in jumping, cross country riding, close and extended order drill has been obtained. In previous years, inclement weather has frequently necessitated the holding of classes in the Riding Hall at this season.

Features of recent conferences have been the lectures by

Lt. Col. Rosenham Beam, Air Corps, on "Combined Operations of Aviation and Cavalry" and by Major J. L. Phillips, Cavalry, on "Cavalry Combat."

Other speakers who have delivered splendid lectures were Captain H. W. Pote, Engineer Reserve, whose topic was "Lessons from the World War—The German Offensive of 1918," and by Lieut. A. C. Jerstad, Veterinary Corps (306th Cav.), who spoke on the subject "Care and Training of the Horse."

The following Cavalry Reserve officers have also given fine lectures: Captain E. H. Daniel, Jr., on "The Machine Gun"; Captain Guerra Everett, on "A Reconnaissance Squadron"; Captain J. B. Goodell, on "Halt for the Night with Outpost"; 1st Lt. George A. Monk, on "Squadron as Advance Guard."

The Cavalry Pistol Team under the leadership of Captain W. W. Woodruff, 306th Cavalry, has gotten under way and is expected to make an excellent showing. As a result of pistol marksmanship firing at Camp Sims, qualification badges have been issued to the members of the team.

With this program of conferences, pistol, and equitation classes well under way, and with a splendid attendance record at all of the functions of the Regiment, the 306th is enjoying one of its most successful and interesting inactive training years.

### 307th Cavalry—Richmond, Virginia

COLONEL M. F. JAMES, Cavalry-Reserve, *Commanding*

Our genial, fox-hunting Squadron Commander from Charlottesville, Va., Major Max Livingston, has recently moved to Philadelphia, where he helps represent the Grover Company, specializing in veterinary and other "horsey" supplies.

Welcome to Major D. R. McComas, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a recent assignment.

Captain J. W. Mann has received the principal appointment from the Division to represent it at the Cavalry School next March. Happy Landings!

### 3d Squadron, 307th Cavalry—Norfolk, Virginia

MAJOR DONALD R. MCCOMAS, Cavalry-Reserve,  
*Commanding*

Our activities for the year closed with a unit school on December 21st, which was well attended. Captain Southgate W. Taylor gave an interesting talk on "Training Programs and Schedules," and the Unit Instructor carried on with the subject "Cavalry Marches involving Pursuit, and Withdrawals from Action." We hope to have one of the Squadron officers put on a subject at every meeting. We know that such training will be invaluable personally upon mobilization, for the junior officer is going to spend a lot of his time talking to and instructing groups of men in the elementary phases of military life. Without previous experience, many officers find this difficult and dread the

time when they must do it. A little training of this nature in peace-time will quickly bring self-confidence, and the informal schools held by units are the best places in the world to begin this work. The time required will be many times repaid when you stand before your platoons or troops as their commanders and instructors.

Major James R. Finley, Cavalry, who has been the Unit Instructor since June 1934 has received his orders for duty in the Philippine Department and will sail in the Spring. Major Robert O. Wright, Cavalry, has been ordered from Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and is due about the middle of March.

### 308th Cavalry—Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

COLONEL GEORGE H. CHERRINGTON, Cavalry-Reserve,  
*Commanding*

Activities of the regiment have been quite satisfactory so far during the current school year. Instruction and riding at the training center have been possible every Sunday, due to the unusually mild weather. A few Sundays have brought severe weather, but, strangely, the attendance on these days has increased. On the coldest day we have had, there were ten riders. They included, besides officers of the regiment, graduates of CMTC and officers of other branches.

Extension course work is proceeding more evenly than usual. The officers are starting earlier to qualify for summer camp. Possibly many of them are taking into consideration the unsettled state of the world and desire to better prepare themselves in case the emergency does come. Conferences are well attended and the instructors have been delivering the goods in greatly improved style.

On February 18th, during National Defense Week, the regiment will sponsor its second annual Military Ball. It was encouraged to do so by the attendance last year. It will be held at the Webster Hall Hotel in the Oakland District, near the University of Pittsburgh. It is hoped that many of the officers from out of town will be able to attend. All officers of the services will be invited.

### 862nd Field Artillery (Horse)—Baltimore, Md.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL RALPH C. BISHOP, Field Artillery-Reserve, *Commanding*

As a result of a new system of instruction in the Baltimore Reserve Area, inaugurated by the Senior Instructor, the average attendance at the bimonthly conferences has been almost doubled. The first half of the two-hour conference is being devoted to subjects of interest to all officers and the last half to unit conferences on subjects of particular interest to the various arms and services.

### R.O.T.C. Unit (Cavalry Regiment) New Mexico Military Institute

The Homecoming Horseshow, now an annual event was held on November 25, 1937, Thanksgiving Day, with

an estimated two thousand people in attendance. Events scheduled were: A Riding Class for First Year Basic Course Students, Equitation and Jumping over low obstacles for Second Year Basic Course Students, Pair Jumping for First Year Advanced Course Students and Individual Jumping for Second Year Advanced Course Students. An added event was an open class for all members of the faculty and members of their families.

The First Year Advanced Course Students completed the Dismounted Pistol Course under the supervision of Captain A. J. Hart, Cavalry, prior to the Christmas Holidays. Thirty-seven students qualified 100 per cent, there being 5 Experts, 11 Sharpshooters and 21 Marksmen. All students were issued basic qualification badges and bars.

Rifle Marksmanship for the First Year Advanced Course and First Year Basic Course was completed before Christmas in the excellent indoor gallery. The firing embraced Troop Competition in the Regiment. Eleven Troops competed for the annual award. The New Mexico Military Institute Gallery Trophy and New Mexico Institute Gallery Medals. Headquarters Troop, Cadet Captain G. A. Gabbert, Dallas, Texas, won the Trophy with an average score of 85.157. Other Troop scores ranged from 85.115 to 80.047 average score per cadet. The interest in this phase of training is evident by the First Year Basic Course averages, 253 cadets firing for a grand total of 20,888 points and a general average of 82.561 per cadet. Cadet C. A. Cook, Troop "L," First Year Basic Course, Little Rock, Arkansas, fired the high individual score of 99 out of a possible 100. Cadet Cook will receive the Yucca Gallery Trophy, which is presented annually to the highest individual score of the First Year Basic Course. Eleven high individual scores in the Regiment ranged between 99 and 94, with 2 cadets tying for second place, three for 3rd place and three for fourth place. Rules for rifle competition were used to determine places. The highest 5 cadets of the First Year Basic and the First Year Advanced Course are eligible to compete in the James Medal Competition an annual event held at the Institution. The Professor of Military Science and Tactics, in congratulating the Regiment on the excellent firing stated "The results attained by all Troops are highly commendable. Instructors, Cadet Officers and New Cadets participating deserve Congratulations on the excellent accomplishment." Captain A. H. Norton, U.S.A. Retired was in charge of the Instruction, Captain Norton captained the Cavalry Rifle Team in 1927 and 1928, his assistants were Lt. T. B. Stapp, Cav-Res., Lt. G. W. Gibson, N.M.M.I., Lt. A. T. Ratcliffe, N.M.M.I.

The New Year will start the Regimental training in Combat Principles with Mounted and Dismounted problems. Combat firing with Caliber 22 is being planned and will be fired on the outdoor pistol range. Excellent results have been attained by the showing of training films during the fall. A series of training films have been ordered from the Signal Officer, Eighth Corps Area, and will be shown in connection with the training and theoretical class room work during the remainder of the year.

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